

THE ROOM[©]

By

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This play can be played without any age restriction. It will work if the chemistry between all the characters makes sense. Human behavior and betrayal applies to all of us. It exists within ourselves. You love somebody. Do you? What is love? You think you have everything, but you don't have anything. You have to have hope and spirit. Be an optimist. But can you handle all your human behavior or other's behavior? You don't want to be good, but great.

THE ROOM, by Tommy P. Wiseau

ACT I

SCENE 1

YOU CAN SEE THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, SUNRISE BEHIND THE BAY. THEN AN EXTERNAL SHOT OF AN APARTMENT BUILDING SOUTH OF MARKET STREET. THERE IS A SHOT OF A WINDOW OF THE ROOM. IT IS FURNISHED SIMPLY.

AS WE PAN ACROSS THE ROOM WE SEE A MAN AND A WOMAN ASLEEP AND PARTIALLY NAKED. THE ALARM CLOCK RINGS. THE MAN REACHES TO THE CLOCK AND TURNS IT OFF. HE SLEEPILY AROUSES AND PUTS ON HIS SHORTS AND WALKS SLOWLY TO THE BATHROOM. HE CLOSES THE DOOR. PAN BACK TO THE WOMAN WAKING UP. THE MAN COMES OUT OF THE BATHROOM AND SMILES TENDERLY AT HER.

CONTINUED:

LISA

I am not a slave here, am I?

JOHNNY

Did you like last night?

LISA

Yes, I did.

(PAUSE)

What time do you have to be there?

JOHNNY

(HE PULLS A SUIT FROM THE CLOSET AND THROWS IT ON THE BED AND STARTS DRESSING.)

JOHNNY

Where is my coffee?

LISA

(SHE GETS OUT OF BED AND PUTS ON A REVEALING GOWN AND GOES TO THE KITCHEN.)

What time do you have to be there?

JOHNNY

(HE IS YELLING.)

I told you many times! 9:30! I have my promotion to think about.

LISA

Promotion! Promotion! That's all I hear about. Here is your coffee and English muffin and burn your mouth.

JOHNNY

(HE SITS DOWN AT THE TABLE DRINKING AND EATING.)

Old man Donkey lets me know today. I have to think about our future.

CONTINUED: (2)

LISA

Well at least I don't have a promotion to think about.

JOHNNY

You have too much competition in the computer field.

LISA

I can handle it. You worry about yourself.

JOHNNY

You sound like we have separate lives. We will be married next month Lisa.

LISA

Yeah.... Yeah.... Well.

JOHNNY

(HE STANDS UP.)

Thank you for breakfast.

(HE KISSES HER ON THE CHEEK AND LEAVES.)

See you later.

LISA

(LISA WALKS TO THE PHONE AND DIALS A NUMBER.)

Hi mom. How are you doing?

CLAUDETTE

(CLAUDETTE IS TALKING ON THE OTHER PHONE.)

I'm fine. What's happening with you?

LISA

Nothing much.

CLAUDETTE

What's wrong? Tell me.

CONTINUED: (3)

LISA

I'm not feeling good today.

CLAUDETTE

Why not?

LISA

I don't think I want to get married.

CLAUDETTE

(CLAUDETTE RAISES HER VOICE.)

Why not?

LISA

I don't love him anymore.

CLAUDETTE

Why not? Tell me why.

LISA

He's boring.

CLAUDETTE

Well you've known him for over five years. You're engaged! You said you loved him. You should reconsider. He supports you, he provides for you, and you can't support yourself. He is a good guy and he loves you very much. His income is very secure and he told me he wants to buy you a home.

LISA

That's why he's boring.

CLAUDETTE

What are you going to do?

LISA

Um, I don't know. I don't mind living with him.

CONTINUED: (4)

CLAUDETTE

You can't do that. Did you tell Johnny about it?

LISA

No. I don't know what to do.

CLAUDETTE

He's a very nice person and you know he's getting a promotion soon. He bought you a car, a ring, clothes, whatever you like and now you want to dump him. It's not right. I've always thought of him as my son in law. You should marry him. He would be good for you.

LISA

Oh, I guess you're right about that, mom.

CLAUDETTE

Of course I'm right my dear, I know about men. I was not born yesterday. I'm glad you listen to your mother. Nobody else listens to me. I work so hard and nobody appreciates it. I try to tell them what they should do, but they don't listen.

LISA

I guess I'll try. See you later, mom.

CLAUDETTE

Okay. Take care of yourself, Lisa. Bye.

LISA

Bye mom.

(LISA HANGS UP AND DIALS ANOTHER NUMBER WHILE SHE'S MUNCHING ON A BAGEL.)

MARK

(MARK, 24, A YOUNG HANDSOME MAN WITH A WELL-TRIMMED BEARD, IS IN A CAR AS HE ANSWERS THE CALL.)

Hello?

CONTINUED: (5)

LISA

Hey baby, how are you doing?

MARK

Oh hi, I'm very busy. How are you doing?

LISA

I just finished talking to my mother and she just finished giving me this big lecture about how big and great Johnny is.

MARK

We'll talk about it later. As I already told you I'm very busy.

LISA

Busy doing what? We'll talk about it now. Whenever you say we'll talk about it later, we never do. I can't wait till later, we have to talk right now. You owe me one anyway. Remember when Johnny saved your life? Remember it was all because of me telling him to do it?

MARK

Okay you win. What do you want to talk about?

LISA

She is a stupid, fucking bitch. She wants to control my life. I will not put up with that anymore. She's not the boss of me, and nobody's going to tell ME what to do! I'm going to do whatever I want and that's it! What do you think I should do? I need your advice.

MARK

Why do you ask me? I mean you've been very happy with Johnny. What do you want me to say? You should enjoy life. What's the problem?

LISA

Maybe you're right. Can I see you for coffee tomorrow?

CONTINUED: (6)

MARK

Ok, about twelve noon?

LISA

Okay. I will be waiting baby. Bye

MARK

Bye.

(LISA FINISHES HER BAGEL AND CHANGES HER CLOTHES.)

END SCENE

SCENE 2

LISA IS SITTING AT THE TABLE DOING HER NAILS. SHE IS WEARING TIGHT JEANS, A LOW-CUT T-SHIRT AND RED SHOES WHICH MATCH HER NAIL POLISH. THE DOORBELL RINGS AND LISA WALKS OVER TO THE FRONT DOOR.

LISA

Who is it?

BILLY

Billy.

LISA

(LISA OPENS THE FRONT DOOR. BILLY, 18, LISA'S OBNOXIOUS YOUNGER BROTHER, WHO IS A HOMOSEXUAL, IS STANDING AND SMILING.)

LISA

Hey Billy, how are you doing?

BILLY

I'm fine. What's new?

LISA

Actually, I'm really busy. Do you want something?

(BILLY BARGES IN, PUSHING PASSED LISA.)

CONTINUED:

BILLY

No thanks. I just want to see Johnny. You look....um,
beautiful, today....so, yeah can I kiss Johnny?

LISA

You are such a little brat!

BILLY

I'm just kidding! I love you and Johnny, but especially
Johnny.

LISA

(WITH THE SIGH.)

Everybody loves Johnny.... Oh, ok, Johnny is going to be here
any minute. You can wait if you want.

BILLY

I got to go. You'll tell him I stopped by?

LISA

Of course I will.

BILLY

Bye.

LISA

Bye Billy.

(BILLY EXITS THE FLAT.)

END SCENE

SCENE 3

LISA IS SITTING ON THE COUCH READING HER BOOK AS WE HEAR THE
SOUND OF THE FRONT DOOR BEING UNLOCKED. JOHNNY COMES IN
CARRYING FLOWERS. AS HE ENTERS, LISA STANDS UP, PLACES HER
BOOK ON THE TABLE AND WALKS TOWARD HIM.

CONTINUED:

JOHNNY

Hi babe, these are for you.

(JOHNNY HANDS THE FLOWERS TO LISA.)

LISA

Oh thanks, they are beautiful.

(LISA KISSES JOHNNY ON THE CHEEK.)

Did you get your promotion, honey?

(SHE TAKES THE FLOWERS TO THE KITCHEN, UNWRAPS THEM AND SHOVES THEM IN A VASE. JOHNNY LIES DOWN ON THE COUCH. SHE BRINGS THE FLOWERS TO THE ROOM AND PLACES THEM ON THE COFFEE TABLE.)

You didn't get it did you.

JOHNNY

That son of a bitch told me I will get within three months. It's not right. I save them bundles, they are crazy. I don't think I will ever get it. They trick me, they didn't keep their promise, they betray me, and I don't care anymore.

LISA

(LISA IS SITTING IN THE CHAIR NEXT TO THE COUCH.)

Did you tell them how much you saved them?

JOHNNY

Of course I did. What do you think? They already put my ideas into practice. Already the bank saves tons of money. They should be grateful to have someone like me who is so good at doing the things I do there. Instead old man Donkey is using me and I'm the fool.

LISA

I still love you.

JOHNNY

You're the only one who does.

CONTINUED: (2)

LISA

You still have friends, I didn't get any calls today. You're right, this computer business is too competitive. I called a dozen of my old clients and they don't need me.

(PAUSE.)

Do you want me to order a pizza or something?

JOHNNY

Whatever I don't care.

LISA

What kind of topping do you want?

JOHNNY

I don't care.

LISA

Are you alright? What is the matter? It's just a lousy promotion.

(SHE ORDERS PIZZA.)

I'll fix a cup of chocolate. That will make you feel better.

(SHE GOES TO THE KITCHEN AND COMES BACK WITH A CHOCOLATE AND SHE SETS IT ON THE COFFEE TABLE.)

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY SITS UP.)

Thank you.

LISA

(SHE GIVES HIM THE CHOCOLATE AND SITS NEXT TO HIM.)

I need a drink.

JOHNNY

I don't drink, you know.

CONTINUED: (3)

LISA

(SHE GOES TO THE CABINET AND POURS TWO DRINKS AND CARRIES THEM BACK TO JOHNNY AND POURS HIS DRINK INTO HIS CUP OF CHOCOLATE. SHE TAKES A SIP OF HER DRINK.)

It's good for you. Don't worry about it.

JOHNNY

I can't drink that. You must be crazy.

LISA

(LISA TAKES THE DRINK FROM THE TABLE AND FORCES JOHNNY TO HOLD THE DRINK IN HIS HAND.)

If you love me, you will drink this, my darling.

(THE PIZZA MAN RINGS THE BELL.)

You are not drinking your cognac, dear. It will taste good with the pizza.

JOHNNY

(HE TAKES A SMALL SIP AND EATS PIZZA.)

You're right, it's good.

LISA

I know, I am right. Don't worry about those fuckers. You are a good man. Let's drink and have some fun.

(FADE OUT, AND FADE IN TO THE OUTSIDE OF THE APPARTMENT. INSIDE THEY ARE DRINKING.)

JOHNNY

You have nice legs.

(HE'S MUMBLING.)

LISA

(LISA IS TAPPING HIS SHOULDER.)

You have nice pecs.

CONTINUED: (4)

JOHNNY

(THEY STUMBLE TO THE BED AND FALL INTO EACH OTHER'S ARMS,
LAUGHING.)

Ha, ha. I'm tired, I'm wasted, I love you darling!

LISA

You've never been wasted. Make love to me, Johnny.

(JOHNNY DOESN'T RESPOND.)

Come on, you owe me one.

JOHNNY

Okay, okay.

(HE IS FALLING ASLEEP. LISA TURNS OFF THE LIGHT AND CRAWLS IN
BED BESIDE HIM AND FALLS ASLEEP.)

END SCENE

SCENE 4

(DRESSING HERSELF IN A SEXY OUTFIT TO GET READY FOR MARK,
LISA PUTS ON JEWELLED SANDALS TO SHOW OFF HER TOENAILS. THE
DOORBELL RINGS AND SHE OPENS THE DOOR.)

MARK

Hi.

LISA

Hi.

MARK

How are you doing?

LISA

I'm fine.

MARK

That's good.

CONTINUED:

LISA

Thanks. How are you?

MARK

Not bad.

LISA

I'm glad. Would you like to come in?

MARK

May I?

LISA

Of course, come in. You want a cup of coffee?

MARK

Okay.....

LISA

Have a seat.

(LISA GOES TO THE KITCHEN. MARK SITS DOWN AND PICKS UP A SPIDER-MAN COMIC. LISA COMES BACK WITH TWO CUPS OF COFFEE AND PLACES THEM ON THE TABLE.)

MARK

Thank you. You look very nice today.

LISA

Oh, thank you Mark.

(SHE GOES TO THE STEREO AND PUTS ON A CD OF CLASSICAL MUSIC AND LIGHTS THE CANDLES WHICH ARE ON THE TABLE. SHE IS SPEAKING IN A SEDUCTIVE VOICE.)

It's hot in here today, my dear boy.

(SHE REMOVES HER T-SHIRT AND REVEALS A TIGHT DRESS WITH FAIR SHOULDERS.)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARK

The candles, the music, the sexy dress. What's going on here?

LISA

(SHE MOVES CLOSER TO MARK AND SLIGHTLY TOUCHES HIM AND KISSES HIM ON THE CHEEK.)

I like you very much lover boy.

MARK

What are you doing this for?

LISA

You don't like me? I'm your girl.

MARK

(MARK LIGHTLY PUSHES LISA AWAY.)

Johnny's my best friend. You're going to get married next month.

LISA

(LISA PUTS THE GLASS ON THE TABLE AND APPROACHES MARK.)

Forget about Johnny. This is between you and me.

(LISA CONTINUES TO SEDUCE MARK AS HE RESISTS.)

MARK

(HE STARTS TO GET UP.)

I don't think so. I'm leaving now.

LISA

(SHE GRABS HIM IN A TIGHT HUG AND STARTS TO CRY.)

Don't leave. I need you, I love you. Everything is going wrong. I don't want to get married. I don't love Johnny anymore. I dream about you. I want you to make love to me.

CONTINUED: (3)

MARK

I don't think so. Don't worry, everything is going to be okay.

(HE GRABS HER WRIST AND PULLS HER ARMS AWAY FROM HIM. SHE BREAKS FREE FROM HIS GRIP AND GRABS HIS SHIRT, PULLING IT UP FROM HIS PANTS AND UNBUCKLES HIS BELT. AT THE SAME TIME SHE KISSES HIM TENDERLY. HE KISSES HER BACK. SHE PULLS HIM TO THE BED AND THEY LIE DOWN TOGETHER. AFTER THEY FINISH DOING SEX MARK STANDS UP AND PUTS ON HIS CLOTHES IN A HURRY. AT THE SAME TIME HE IS TALKING.)

Why did you do this to me? Why? Why? Why?

(HE IS YELLING.)

I can't believe I let you do this to me! Oh god, Johnny's my best friend.

LISA

Didn't you like it? Didn't you enjoy it?

MARK

That's not the point. Do you realize what we've done?

LISA

I love you Mark. I love you very much.

MARK

I was always attracted to you. I mean you are very beautiful. But, listen to me Lisa, we can't do this anymore. I can't hurt Johnny.

LISA

(SARCASTICALLY.)

Yeah, I know. He's your best friend.

MARK

I'm glad you understand the situation I'm in. This will be our secret.

CONTINUED: (4)

LISA

Did you like it?

MARK

(NODDING HIS HEAD.)

Yeah.

LISA

I knew it!

MARK

(HE IS KISSING LISA ON THE CHEEK.)

See you later alligator. I have to go now.

LISA

Okay, I'll see you later.

(SHE HOLDS ONTO HIS ARMS AND HE GOES OUT THE DOOR.)

END SCENE

SCENE 5

LISA

(SMILING, SHE VERY QUICKLY STRAIGHTENS THE BED. THEN SHE WASHES THE COFFEE CUPS, PUTS THE CANDLES AWAY AND CHANGES TO JEANS AND T-SHIRT. SHE PUTS PASTA IN THE OVEN. AND SETTLES IN THE CHAIR WITH A MAGAZINE. SHORTLY THERE IS THE SOUND OF A KEY IN THE DOOR. JOHNNY ENTERS THE APARTMENT WITH ONE RED ROSE.)

JOHNNY

Hi, how are you?

JOHNNY

(HE GIVES LISA THE ROSE, TAKES HIS BLAZER OFF AND SITS DOWN ON THE COUCH.)

CONTINUED:

LISA

(SHE SMILING AND PUTTING THE ROSE TO HER NOSE.)

Thank you, I'm doing great. You're so charming, you always give me flowers. You're so unique. Let me kiss you.

(SHE GETS UP AND KISSES JOHNNY ON THE CHEEK.)

JOHNNY

Oh, thank you. What's cooking?

LISA

Pasta, your favorite dish, my sweet pie.

JOHNNY

You're awfully happy today. What's up? Did you get a client?

LISA

I called dozens of clients. No one needs my service. It's very tough. Do you feel like eating now?

JOHNNY

I'm starving. What else did you do today? You're in a very good mood.

LISA

Let me fix the pasta.

JOHNNY

I'll take a shower.

(JOHNNY DISAPPEARS INTO THE BATHROOM.)

LISA

(WHEN HE DISAPPEARS, LISA WAITS UNTIL THE WATER IS RUNNING AND DIALS A NUMBER ON THE PHONE.)

Hi Mark, I miss you.

CONTINUED: (2)

MARK

I just saw you. What are you talking about?

LISA

Sorry my darling. I just wanted to hear your sexy voice. I can tell you something now. I like how you put our sexy hands around my body. You excite me so, and I love you.

MARK

Is Johnny there?

LISA

Yeah he's in the shower, but I like you better.

MARK

But I don't understand you. Why do you do that?

LISA

Because I love you.

(SARCASTICALLY.)

You don't care, do you.

MARK

Yes I do care, but we agreed that it's over between us.

LISA

I understand. I'm with you, it's our secret. I still have feelings for you, but I guess you don't care.

MARK

Yes, I do care. Don't drive yourself crazy.

LISA

(THE WATER STOPS RUNNING.)

I have to go now. See you later my darling.

CONTINUED: (3)

MARK

Don't call me that.

LISA

Okay bye.

MARK

Bye.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY COMES OUT OF THE BATHROOM WITH A TOWEL AROUND HIS MIDDLE AND GOES TO THE CLOSET.)

Who were you talking to?

LISA

My mother.

JOHNNY

Is she okay?

LISA

Oh, she tested for breast cancer, now she's talking about dying.

JOHNNY

It's no big deal these days, is it?

LISA

No, I'm not worried.

(SHE IS PREPARING DINNER AND PUTTING EVERYTHING ON THE TABLE.)

Dinner is ready.

(THEY SIT DOWN TO EAT.)

CONTINUED: (4)

JOHNNY

What happened last night? I don't remember anything. Did we make love?

LISA

You don't remember? You poor little thing. You don't remember when you hit me?

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY IS YELLING)

Hit you! I never would do that, even if I was drunk! You must be kidding. It's not true, is it? Do you have a bruise?

LISA

Yes, it's true.

JOHNNY

(THEY ARE EATING.)

I will never drink again. I feel sick. I can't eat any more.

(HE IS PUSHING HIS PLATE AWAY.)

LISA

I'm strong. Don't worry about it. I need some money. I have to buy a new dress.

JOHNNY

How much do you want?

LISA

Around \$ 300.00

JOHNNY

Oh wow. Why so much?

(HE PULLS OUT HIS WALLET AND HANDS HER THREE ONE-HUNDRED DOLLARS BILLS.)

CONTINUED: (5)

LISA

Thank you Johnny.

(SHE KISSES HIM ON HIS CHEEK.)

You're always so generous with me.

JOHNNY

I have to be. You're my future wife. We will be married soon.
You love me, don't you?

LISA

Of course I do.

(LISA GETS UP, CLEARS THE TABLE, AND CHANGES HER CLOTHES.)

JOHNNY

I'm going to the roof to straighten out my head.

LISA

Why, is it crooked?

JOHNNY/LISA

Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha.

LISA

But are you okay?

JOHNNY

I'm fine.

LISA

Don't worry about it.

END SCENE

SCENE 6

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY STORMS ONTO THE ROOF WITH A WATER BOTTLE AND LOOKS CONFUSED AND LOST. HE SLAMS THE DOOR BEHIND HIM.)

I did not hit her. It's not true! It's bullshit, I did not hit her. Why did Lisa say that? I would never do that!

(JOHNNY THROWS THE BOTTLE OF WATER TO THE GROUND.)

I did not hit her!

(JOHNNY PICKS UP A FOOTBALL FROM THE FLOOR AND TOSSES IT IN THE AIR.)

Oh hi Mark. What's up with you?

MARK

Not much. I'm just sitting up here thinking about life. I wonder if girls like to cheat like guys do?

JOHNNY

What makes you say that?

MARK

(MARK STANDS UP AND JOHNNY TOSSES THE BALL TO HIM.)

Well, I'm just thinking, you know.

JOHNNY

(THEY CONTINUE TO TOSS THE BALL WHILE THEY ARE TALKING.)

I don't have to worry about that because Lisa is loyal to me.

MARK

You never know. People are very strange this days. I used to know a girl who had a dozen guys. One of them found out about it, beat her up and she ended up in a hospital.

JOHNNY

What a story!

CONTINUED:

MARK

You can say that again.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY GETS UP AND WALKS OVER TO MARK AND STANDS NEXT TO MARK.)

I'm so lucky I have you as my best friend and I love Lisa so much.

MARK

Yeah man, you are lucky.

(PAUSE.)

(MARK IS SPEAKING SLOWLY, IN A LOW VOICE.)

Very....lucky.

JOHNNY

You should have a girl Mark.

MARK

(MARK WALKS AWAY FROM JOHNNY AND CAREFULLY POSITIONS HIMSELF SO HE IS STANDING IN THE EXACT MIDDLE OF THE ROOF.)

Yeah, I guess you're right. Maybe I have one already. I don't know yet.

JOHNNY

Well what happened to that girl? Remember? Betty? That's her name, isn't it? Betty?

MARK

Yeah.

(PAUSE.)

Yeah, we don't see each other anymore. Besides she wasn't any good in bed. She was beautiful, but we had too many arguments.

CONTINUED: (2)

JOHNNY

That's too bad. My Lisa is great when I can get it.

MARK

(NOT BREAKING HIS GAZE FROM JOHNNY, MARK SLOWLY BACKS AWAY FROM THE MIDDLE OF THE ROOF AND STARTS FEELING FOR HIS CHAIR WITH HIS HAND BEHIND HIM. WHEN HE FINDS IT HE SITS DOWN.)

I just can't figure women out. Sometimes they're smart, sometimes they're dumb. Sometimes they're good, sometimes they're bad. Sometimes they're nice, sometimes they're not nice. They are evil, seductive and hostile.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY WALKS OVER TO MARK.)

JOHNNY

Seems to me like you're an expert on this.

(JOHNNY SITS DOWN NEXT TO MARK.)

MARK

(LAUGHING BITTERLY.)

Nooooo. I'm definitely not an expert.

JOHNNY

What's bothering you Mark?

MARK

(MARK STANDS UP AND SHOUTS.)

Nothing man! Forget it!

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY GETS UP AND GOES AFTER MARK.)

Is it some secrets Mark? Why don't you tell me? We are like brothers, we shouldn't have secrets.

CONTINUED: (3)

MARK

No forget it, I'll talk to you later!

(MARK GOES THROUGH THE DOOR. JOHNNY GOES AND LIES FACE DOWN ON THE BENCH, CLUTCHING THE FOOTBALL TIGHTLY AT HIS SIDE.)

END SCENE

SCENE 7

LISA IS SITTING UNDERNEATH THE STAIRCASE WITH A CLIPBOARD AND DISCUSSING JOHNNY'S BIRTHDAY PARTY WITH HER MOTHER CLAUDETTE. CLAUDETTE AND LISA ARE DRINKING TEA.

LISA

So, I'm organizing a party for Johnny's birthday. Can you come?

CLAUDETTE

When is it?

LISA

Next Friday at six. It's a surprise. You can bring someone if you want.

CLAUDETTE

Well, sure, I can come, but I don't know if I'll bring anybody. Oh that jerk Harold, he wants me to give him a share of my house. That house belongs to me, he has no right. I'm not giving him a penny. Who does he think he is?

LISA

He's your brother.

CLAUDETTE

He is always bugging me about my house. Fifteen years ago we agreed that house belongs to me. Now the value of the house is going up and he's seeing dollar signs. Everything goes wrong at once. Nobody wants to help me and I'm dying.

LISA

We already discussed this. You're not dying mom.

CONTINUED:

CLAUDETTE

I am Lisa. I finally got the results of the test back. I definitely have breast cancer.

LISA

Look, don't worry about it, everything will be fine. They are curing lots of people everyday and Johnny says it's not a big deal anymore.

CLAUDETTE

I'm sure he's right. I'll be fine. Oh I heard Edward is talking about me. He is a hateful man. I'm so glad I divorced him. I really think he gave me the breast cancer after he slept with that hooker. That type of riffraff carry all sorts of things. Don't you agree?

LISA

Look, don't worry about it. You just concentrate on getting well.

CLAUDETTE

Well at least you have a good man.

LISA

You're wrong, mom. He's not what you think he is. He didn't get his promotion, and he got drunk last night and he hit me.

CLAUDETTE

Johnny doesn't drink. What are you talking about?

LISA

He did last night, and I don't love him anymore.

CLAUDETTE

Johnny is your financial security. You can't afford to ignore this.

LISA

Yeah, ok mom. Can I just talk to you later?

CONTINUED: (2)

CLAUDETTE

You don't want to talk to me.

LISA

I just got done talking with a client and I have to get ready to meet him. Can I just talk to you later?

CLAUDETTE

Ok, I will see you later. Bye, bye.

(CLAUDETTE GETS UP FROM THE ARMCHAIR AND TAPS LISA ON THE NOSE. SHE THEN EXITS AS WE SEE LISA WATCH HER. LISA IS UNDER THE STAIRCASE.)

END SCENE

ACT II

SCENE 8

MICHELLE, A PRETTY BLOND CARRYING A BOOK, AND BRAN, A YOUNG BLOND MAN CARRYING A BOX OF CHOCOLATES, BOTH GOOD FRIENDS OF LISA AND JOHNNY, SECRETLY ENTER THE ROOM, MAKING SURE THEY ARE NOT SEEN. BRAN CLOSES THE DOOR BEHIND THEM AND THEY COME TOGETHER.

MICHELLE

How much time do we have?

BRAN

I don't know. A couple of hours at least.

MICHELLE

(MICHELLE LEADS BRAN TO THE COUCH AND THEY SIT DOWN TOGETHER.)

Let's have some fun.

BRAN

(BRAN OPENS THE BOX OF CHOCOLATES AND PICKS A PIECE OUT.)

Did you know that chocolate is the symbol of love?

CONTINUED:

MICHELLE

Feed me.

(BRAN PUTS THE CHOCOLATE IN HER MOUTH.)

Yum.

(BRAN AND MICHELLE BEGIN KISSING PASSIONATELY. BRAN THEN TAKES ANOTHER CHOCOLATE AND PLACES IT ON MICHELLE'S CHEST AND EATS IT OFF HER CHEST. HE STARTS KISSING HER NECK AS WELL.)

BRAN

It's delicious, just like your neck.

(BRAN LEANS BACK AND MICHELLE SITS UP.)

MICHELLE

Arm's up.

(MICHELLE TAKES BRAN'S SWEATER OFF AND PUSHES HIM BACK ONTO THE COUCH SO THAT BRAN IS LYING DOWN. MICHELLE THEN TAKES A CHOCOLATE OUT OF THE BOX.)

Chocolate is the symbol of love.

(MICHELLE THEN PLACES THE CHOCOLATE IN HIS MOUTH AND ENJOYS HIS BODY AS THE LIGHTING FADES TO BLACK.)

END SCENE

SCENE 9

MICHELLE AND BRAN JUMP UP FROM THE COUCH AS THEY SEE LISA AND CLAUDETTE ARRIVE FROM SHOPPING WITH BAGS. LISA AND CLAUDETTE ARE SHOCKED TO SEE THEM.

CLAUDETTE

Hello....

(BRAN ADJUSTS HIS SWEATER AS MICHELLE LOOKS SHOCKED.)

CLAUDETTE

What are these characters doing here?

CONTINUED:

LISA

They like to come here to do their homework.

CLAUDETTE

What homework!

BRAN

It's in Michelle's purse.

LISA

Mom, this is Michelle's boyfriend Bran. Bran, this is my mother.

BRAN

It's a pleasure to meet you.

(BRAN TRIES TO SHAKE CLAUDETTE'S HAND BUT SHE JUST LOOKS AWAY.)

MICHELLE

Uh, huh.

(MICHELLE AND BRAN EXIT AS CLAUDETTE IS DUMBFOUNDED.)

CLAUDETTE

(CLAUDETTE WALKS OVER AND SITS ON THE COUCH.)

All that shopping wore me out.

BILLY

(BILLY STORMS INTO THE FLAT.)

Hey Lisa.

(He spots Claudette.)

Oh, hello....mother. What a pleasant surprise to see you here.

CLAUDETTE

Well, well. If it isn't my son, the homo.

CONTINUED: (2)

BILLY

I just need to borrow some sugar.

LISA

Help yourself Billy.

BILLY

I also need a cup of flour and half a stick of butter.

CLAUDETTE

Just what sort of perverted filth are you planning to use those ingredients for!?

BILLY

I'll come back later.

(BILLY EXITS THE FLAT. LISA GOES OVER AND SITS DOWN NEXT TO HER MOTHER.)

CLAUDETTE

Tell me, what does Billy do for money? You're not lending him any I hope.

LISA

Johnny wanted to adopt Billy after you disowned him. It's really a tragedy how many kids out there don't have a great friend like Johnny. When Billy turned eighteen, Johnny found him a little apartment here in this building and he is paying for it until he graduates from school. Johnny is very caring about the people in his life, and he gave Billy his own set of keys to our place. Billy has a thing for Johnny, but I don't like it, so we try to discourage it.

CLAUDETTE

That boy has been nothing but trouble. First the cesarean and now this. It's time Billy grew up and took care of himself.

LISA

Johnny really cares about Billy, but Billy is so annoying. That's another reason why I don't love Johnny anymore.

CONTINUED: (3)

CLAUDETTE

Johnny makes a lot of money, so please don't hurt him. Now If you really don't love Johnny so be it, but you should wait till after you're married before you tell him. That way he has to split his assets with you 50/50 if he wants a divorce.

BRAN

(BRAN COMES RUSHING THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR AND RIGHT TO THE COUCH. HE REACHES UNDER THE SEAT LOOKING FOR SOMETHING.)

I forgot my book.

(BRAN GRABS HIS UNDERWEAR AND CLAUDETTE GRABS IT FROM HIM.)

CLAUDETTE

Some book! What's it called, "The Week Bran Forgot To Change His Underwear"?

BRAN

Oh, that's nothing.

(BRAN GRABS HIS UNDERWEAR BACK AND STORMS OUT, CLOSING THE DOOR. LISA AND CLAUDETTE CACKLE HYSTERICALLY.)

CLAUDETTE

Homework?

LISA

Don't worry about it.

CLAUDETTE

If I were a burglar, you would be my best friend.

LISA

Look, I don't want to talk about it.

CLAUDETTE

You know, I worry about you. I have to go home. Don't you ever have sex with that Bran character. Homework indeed.

CONTINUED: (4)

LISA

Ok, mom.

CLAUDETTE

Bye, bye.

(CLAUDETTE TAPS LISA ON THE NOSE. CLAUDETTE LEAVES THE FLAT.
LISA LEANS BACK ON THE COUCH.)

LISA

I need a drink.

END SCENE

SCENE 10

BILLY IS DRIBBLING THE FOOTBALL AS JIMMY, A RUGGED DRUG DEALING PIMP WITH CHISELED FEATURES AND A BLACK BEANIE, ENTERS ONTO THE ROOF.

JIMMY

Hey Billy.

BILLY

Jimmy! I've been looking for you.

JIMMY

Yeah, sure you have. You have my money right.

(BIMMY AND JIMMY ARE PASSING THE BALL BACK AND FORTH.)

BILLY

Yeah it's coming. It'll be here in a few minutes.

JIMMY

What do you mean it's coming Billy? Where's my money?

CONTINUED:

BILLY

(SARCASTICALLY.)

Okay, chill out there Gramaha, Supreme Leader of the Astra Galactic Command. Just hold your wiener for five minutes and relax. The cash is on its way.

JIMMY

Five minutes? You want five fucking minutes. You know what...

(JIMMY REMOVES A GUN FROM HIS BACK POCKET AND PUTS IT TO BILLY'S HEAD AS HE PUTS BILLY ON HIS KNEES.)

I haven't got five fucking minutes! I'm going to ask you only one more time, so you better answer right. Where's my money Billy?

BILLY

Bite me!

JIMMY

Where's my money Billy? Where's my fucking money Billy? What did you do with my fucking money, you homo?

BILLY

It's coming! It's coming!

JIMMY

Where's my fucking money Billy?

BILLY

Put the gun down!

JIMMY

(SARCASTICALLY.)

What's the matter Billy, do guns scare you?

BILLY

Guns don't scare me. Idiots with guns scare me.

CONTINUED: (2)

JIMMY

That's it! Where's my fucking money Billy!?

(MARK, LISA AND CLAUDETTE ENTER THE ROOF AND JIMMY POINTS THE GUN AT THEM. JIMMY YELLS.)

Over there! All of you, over there! NOW!

(JIMMY MOTIONS WITH THE GUN TOWARD THE SIDE OF THE ROOF. BILLY, MARK, LISA AND CLAUDETTE MOVE THERE WHILE JIMMY HOLDS THEM AT GUNPOINT.)

JIMMY

Say your prayers wienerheads, because I'm about to make some Swiss cheese.....out of YOU!

(AT THAT MOMENT THE VIEW CHANGES TO JIMMY'S PERSPECTIVE AS OMINOUS OPERA MUSIC, SUCH AS CARL ORFF'S "O FORTUNA", OR EQUIVALENT STARTS TO PLAY. JOHNNY'S MERCEDEZ IS SEEN RISING SLOWLY OVER THE EDGE OF THE ROOF WITH JOHNNY AT THE WHEEL. AS HE HOVERS IN THE AIR IN FRONT AND ABOVE THE GROUP, THE MUSIC SUBSIDES. JOHNNY SMILES, REVEALING LONG FANGED TEETH. HE IS GLOWING.)

JOHNNY

Do you know who I am? I have 9 black belts, 15 Master's degrees and a PhD in Agricultural Economics. That's right, you know I'm way better than you, and all my friends will gladly tell you just how great and awesome I am! Have you seen my power level? It's over 9,000! You know what that means? It means I have more than 9,000 units of POWER. It also puts my total adjusted force rating at 22,000! That's more than triple, so you don't want to make me mad, because anger is my middle name!

JIMMY

(TREMBLING WITH FEAR JIMMY MANAGES TO RAISE THE GUN AND AIM IT AT JOHNNY. HE FIRES SOME SHOTS, BUT JOHNNY EXTENDS HIS HAND OUT THE DRIVER'S SIDE WINDOW AND DEFLECTS THE BULLETS. NEXT JOHNNY EMITS A POWER FIELD FROM HIS HAND WHICH ENCOMPASSES JIMMY. JIMMY THRUSTS HIS ARMS OUT TO HIS SIDES AND YELLS.)

JIMMY

Don't touch Jimmy!!!

CONTINUED: (3)

(JOHNNY USES THE FIELD TO LEVITATE JIMMY, HOLDING HIM HIGH IN THE AIR UNTIL JIMMY DROPS THE GUN. A REAR PASSENGER DOOR OPENS AS JOHNNY DRAWS JIMMY TOWARD THE CAR AND DROPS HIM IN THE BACK SEAT. JOHNNY WAVES TO THE GROUP. THE GROUP WAVES BACK AS JOHNNY AND HIS CAPTIVE FLY OFF OVER THE SKYLINE, THEN UPWARDS, DISAPPEARING OUT OF SIGHT.)

LISA

(LISA AND CLAUDETTE APPROACH BILLY WHO IS AT THE EDGE OF THE ROOF IN A HYSTERICAL STATE. MARK IS SHAKEN AND SPEECHLESS, AND WATCHES FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROOF.)

LISA

Billy....are you okay? What did that man want from you?

BILLY

Nothing!

CLAUDETTE

That was not nothing!

LISA

Tell me everything!

CLAUDETTE

You have no idea what kind of trouble you are in here, do you!?

BILLY

I owe him some money.

LISA

What kind of money?

BILLY

I owe him some money.

LISA

What kind of money?

CONTINUED: (4)

BILLY

Everything is okay, he's gone!

CLAUDETTE

Everything is not okay. That is a dangerous man.

BILLY

Calm down. Johnny's taking him to jail!

LISA

Billy, what kind of money? Just tell me!

CLAUDETTE

What do you need money for?

LISA

Mom please! Billy is with me and Johnny!

CLAUDETTE

A man like that with a gun! Oh my god!

LISA

Billy, look at me in the eyes and tell me the truth. We're your friends.

BILLY

I've been prostituting myself to make some money, and he's my pimp. Things got mixed up. He thinks I'm holding out on him. I didn't mean for this to happen.

LISA

(LISA STARTS CRYING.)

Billy....Billy.

BILLY

I don't work for him anymore.

CONTINUED: (5)

LISA

Your clients, were they johns or tricks, Billy!?

BILLY

It doesn't matter. I don't do it anymore.

CLAUDETTE

It doesn't matter!? How the hell did you get involved with prostitution!? Are you taking drugs?

LISA

Mom.

CLAUDETTE

What, were you a hooker, call boy, a kerb crawler? Where in the hell did you meet that man!?

LISA

Were your clients johns or tricks?

BILLY

They're the same thing, and kerb crawlers are johns!

(HE THINKS.)

....also tricks.

LISA

(LISA GRABS BILLY AND SHAKES HIM)

What the hell is wrong with you!!

BILLY

I just needed some money to pay off some stuff.

LISA

How much do you have to give him!?

CONTINUED: (6)

CLAUDETTE

This is not the way you make money young man.

LISA

How much!?

BILLY

Stop ganging up on me!

CLAUDETTE

Well it is time somebody ganged you for god's sake. A man like that. Where the hell did you meet a man like that!?

BILLY

It doesn't matter!

CLAUDETTE

It matters a great deal! A man holds a gun on you. You almost got killed! You expect me to forget that happened?

BILLY

You are not my fucking mother anymore!

CLAUDETTE

(CLAUDETTE GRABS BILLY BY THE NOSE AND YANKS HIM TOWARDS HER.)

That's why I'm going to enjoy this so much! Pull down your pants, boy. It's time you got a belt whipping!

LISA

(LISA INTERFERES AND PULLS BILLY AWAY FROM CLAUDETTE.)

No, no!

CLAUDETTE

Somebody had better do something around here!

CONTINUED: (7)

LISA

(LISA CONSOLES AND CARESSES BILLY AS HE CRIES.)

It's okay, it's okay.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY REENTERS ONTO THE ROOF WITH A TRICKLE OF BLOOD ON THE SIDE OF HIS MOUTH. HE HEADS TOWARD BILLY.)

Are you okay Billy?

BILLY

I'm okay.

JOHNNY

Are you really okay?

BILLY

I'm okay.

JOHNNY

Really?

BILLY

Yes!

JOHNNY

You?

MARK

(MARK ARRIVES AT CLAUDETTE'S SIDE AND HOLDS HER SHOULDERS.)

It's okay.

CLAUDETTE

What's okay? He's involved with some sort of gang of female trans-homo perverts!

CONTINUED: (8)

MARK

Come on, stop. It was a mistake.

CLAUDETTE

A mistake? That he leases his body to addicted drug homos?

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY HOLDS BILLY'S HEAD IN HIS HAND.)

Let's go home.

MARK

Come on, it's clear.

CLAUDETTE

What's clear? All you did was stand and watch. I'm going to call the police.

LISA

Mom stop! It was Billy's mistake, just stop!

MARK

Let's go.

(MARK LEAVES WITH CLAUDETTE.)

JOHNNY

Why did you this? You know better, right? Why!?

BILLY

I'm sorry.

JOHNNY

You know better Billy...you almost got killed!

BILLY

I'm sorry, it won't happen again, I promise.

CONTINUED: (9)

JOHNNY

Of course it won't. I made him....go away.

LISA

I'm your older sister Billy, and you know that Johnny is like your father. We are going to help you. I'm going home now.

(LISA EXITS THE ROOF LEAVING JOHNNY AND BILLY ALONE TOGETHER.)

BILLY

Are we still going to the movie tonight?

JOHNNY

Oh, sure we are.

BILLY

What kind of movie are we going to see, Vampires?

JOHNNY

Well we'll see....Billy, don't plan too much, it may not come out right.

BILLY

Alright, let's toss the ball around.

JOHNNY

Okay.

(JOHNNY AND BILLY BEGIN TO TOSS THE FOOTBALL FROM ONE END OF THE ROOF TO THE OTHER.)

BILLY

I got to tell you about something.

JOHNNY

Shoot Billy.

CONTINUED: (10)

BILLY

It's about me and you.

JOHNNY

Go on.

BILLY

You're just so cool and such a nice, caring guy. Everybody likes you and only a fat, stupid, idiotic, selfish jerk with a body odor problem would ever betray you. You help so many people and you've been so good to me.

JOHNNY

Go on.

BILLY

I like you a lot, and I find myself sexually attracted to you. I know you love Lisa and I shouldn't think of you in that way, but I can't help it. I don't know, I'm just confused.

JOHNNY

Billy, don't worry about that. Lisa and I love you too, as a person, as a human being, as a friend. You know people don't have to say it, they can feel it.

BILLY

What do you mean?

(JOHNNY AND BILLY SIT DOWN ON SOME SEATS AS THEY TALK.)

JOHNNY

You can love someone deep inside your heart and there is nothing wrong with it. If a lot of people love each other, the world will be a better place to live.

BILLY

But you're Lisa's future husband.

CONTINUED: (11)

JOHNNY

Billy, don't worry about it. The important thing is that you appreciate loyalty. You would never betray me and that's why I do things like pay your rent for you. In fact, and this is a secret, I have a small fortune built up that I'm waiting to give away as a reward to all my friends who never betray me.

BILLY

You mean you are not upset at me?

JOHNNY

No, because I trust you and I trust Lisa, and Mark. You are part of our family and we love you very much, as a friend. But you are sort of like our son too, and we will help you anytime.

BILLY

Well, you're right. Thanks for paying my tuition.

JOHNNY

You're very welcome Billy. Keep in mind that if you have any problems, talk to me and I will help you.

BILLY

Awesome. Thanks Johnny.

JOHNNY

Let's go eat, huh. Come on, let's go.

(JOHNNY AND BILLY WALK TO EXIT THE ROOF.)

JOHNNY

You must be starving.

BILLY

I am, Johnny. I am.

(JOHNNY AND BILLY EXIT THE ROOF.)

END SCENE

SCENE 11

LISA ENTERS THE ROOM WITH DEPARTMENT STORE SHOPPING BAGS AND HER FRIEND MICHELLE. THEY ARE TALKING AND LAUGHING.

LISA

Would you like something to drink?

(SHE PUTS HER SHOPPING BAGS ON THE COUCH AND GOES TO THE KITCHEN.)

MICHELLE

(MICHELLE CALLS TO HER.)

What do you have?

LISA

Vodka, brandy, rum, tequila, applejack, vermouth, cognac, gin, and the whiskeys: bourbon, scotch, rye and Canadian. I would go with the rum because it's 151 proof.

MICHELLE

Hit me with a double!

LISA/MICHELLE

Let's get this party started!

(THEY LAUGH.)

MICHELLE

How's Johnny?

LISA

Not so good. He didn't get his promotion.

MICHELLE

I'm sorry to hear that. Was he disappointed?

LISA

Quite a bit. He got drunk last night and hit me. Now he's on the roof trying to give advice to Billy.

CONTINUED:

MICHELLE

He hit you!?? How did that happen?

LISA

He got drunk and didn't know what he was doing.

(THEY PREPARE DRINKS AND GO IN THE ROOM AND SIT DOWN.)

MICHELLE

You poor thing. Are you okay?

LISA

Well, I don't want to marry him anymore.

MICHELLE

What??? I thought it was all planned. How is he in bed?

LISA

He's okay, but I found somebody else.

MICHELLE

What!?? And you're planning a birthday party for Johnny?

LISA

Why not? He doesn't know anything about it.

(SHE GIGGLES.)

Pretty good, huh?

MICHELLE

Look, this is not right. You are living with a one guy and doing sex with another.

LISA

I'm doing what I want to.

MICHELLE

Does this new guy know Johnny?

CONTINUED: (2)

LISA

(SHE IS SMILING.)

He's his best friend who lives in this building.

MICHELLE

(MICHELLE TURNS AWAY AND THINKS FOR A MOMENT.)

I don't believe you're telling me this.

(SHE THINKS A LITTLE WHILE MORE.)

It's Mark, isn't it! You're not thinking about Johnny or Mark. You're just thinking about yourself, Lisa. You can't go on this way. Somebody's going to get hurt. You have to be honest with Johnny. You can't go on like this.

LISA

I can't do that. What will it do to Johnny? He would be devastated and never recover.

MICHELLE

Oh, so you're saying you are thinking about him and not yourself? Well if you care so much for him, then why cheat on him?

LISA

Look I really don't know what to do. I love Mark. I really don't have any more feelings for Johnny.

MICHELLE

Johnny is so excited about this wedding.

LISA

I know.

MICHELLE

You've got to tell Johnny.

LISA

No guilt trips.

CONTINUED: (3)

MICHELLE

You don't feel guilty about this at all?

LISA

No, I'm happy.

MICHELLE

Something awful is going to happen.

LISA

Please don't tell anybody.

(JOHNNY OPENS THE DOOR AND ENTERS THE FLAT. MICHELLE AND LISA ARE STILL TALKING ON THE COUCH.)

MICHELLE

Don't worry, you can trust me. You're secret is safe with me.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY ENTERS THE ROOM AND IS SURPRISED TO SEE MICHELLE.)

Hello Michelle, I heard you. What secret?

(JOHNNY SITS DOWN IN HIS CHAIR NEXT TO THE GIRLS.)

LISA

It's between us women.

MICHELLE

Hi Johnny.

JOHNNY (TO LISA)

Did you get a new dress?

MICHELLE

Well I guess I'd better be going. I'll just talk to you guys later? Excuse me.

(MICHELLE WALKS TO THE DOOR AND OPENS IT.)

CONTINUED: (4)

MICHELLE (TO LISA)

Lisa, remember what I told you.

(MICHELLE WAVES AS SHE EXITS. LISA LOOKS UPSET.)

JOHNNY

What's she talking about?

LISA

It's women talk. Only women can talk about it!

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY GETS UP AND PLACES HIS JACKET ON THE COUCH.)

I still don't believe I hit you. You shouldn't have any secrets from me. I'm your future husband.

LISA

Are you sure about that? Maybe I'll change my mind.

JOHNNY

Don't talk like that. What do you mean?

LISA

What do you think? Women change their minds all the time.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY LAUGHS AND PUTS HIS HANDS BEHIND HIS HEAD.)

Ha,ha! You must be kidding, aren't you?

LISA

Look, I don't want to talk about it. I'm going to go upstairs, wash up and go to bed.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY STANDS UP AND PUSHES LISA ONTO THE COUCH.)

How dare you talk to me like that! You should tell me everything! What is it you don't want to talk about?

CONTINUED: (5)

LISA

I can't talk right now.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY SITS DOWN NEXT TO LISA AND IS HYSTERICAL.)

Why Lisa! Why Lisa! Why don't you talk to me! Come on Lisa! Lisa! Lisa! Lisa! Talk to me please! Without you I would be nothing. You are my life, my everything, I could not go on without you Lisa.

LISA

You're scaring me.

(LISA STANDS UP AS IF TO HEAD UPSTAIRS. JOHNNY STANDS IN HER FACE.)

JOHNNY

You are lying! I never hit you. You are taking me apart, Lisa!!!!

LISA

Why are you so hysterical!?

JOHNNY

(HE TAKES HER BY THE SHOULDERS AND SHAKES HER.)

Do you understand life? Do you understand life? Do you?

LISA

(LISA GETS UP AND WALKS UP THE STAIRS.)

Don't worry about it. Everything will be alright.

(SHE IS KISSING JOHNNY ON THE CHEEK AND GOES INTO THE BATHROOM.)

JOHNNY

You drive me crazy!

(HE IS SITTING ON A CHAIR AND THINKING. HIS FACE LOOKS VERY WORRIED.)

CONTINUED: (6)

LISA

(SHE COMES OUT OF THE BATHROOM WITH A SEXY NIGHTGOWN ON AND GOES TO BED.)

Goodnight, Johnny.

JOHNNY

Don't worry about it, I still love you. Good night Lisa.

END SCENE

SCENE 12

(LISA AND CLAUDETTE WALK INTO THE LIVING ROOM FROM THE KITCHEN.)

LISA

You look really tired today mom, are you feeling okay?

CLAUDETTE

I didn't get much sleep last night.

LISA

Why not? What's wrong?

(LISA TOUCHES CLAUDETTE ON THE SHOULDER.)

CLAUDETTE

You remember my friend Shirley Hamilton? She wants to buy a new house and I asked Johnny if he could help her with the down payment. All he can tell me is that it's an awkward situation. I expected your husband to be a little more generous.

LISA

He's not my husband.

CLAUDETTE

I know, but Johnny is part of our family.

CONTINUED:

LISA

Mom, I don't love Johnny anymore. I don't even like him. I had sex with someone else.

CLAUDETTE

(CLAUDETTE BREATHES DEEPLY.)

You can't be serious.

(JOHNNY IS HIDING BEHIND THE STAIRCASE AND LISTENING TO THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN CLAUDETTE AND LISA.)

LISA

You don't understand.

CLAUDETTE

Who, who is it?

LISA

I don't want to talk about it.

CLAUDETTE

Oh no! It's that homework character with the underwear, isn't it! I gave you strict orders not to sleep with that goofball. Well, that's it. You leave me no other option than to disown y...

LISA

(LISA STARTS TALKING AND CUTS OFF CLAUDETTE BEFORE SHE CAN FINISH.)

It's not Bran! Look, I just don't want to talk about it.

CLAUDETTE

You don't want to talk about it. Then why did you bring it up in the first place? Have you lost your mind? Next thing you'll be turning tricks like your brother.

LISA

I don't know why I brought it up?

CONTINUED: (2)

CLAUDETTE

You don't know? You really are going crazy.

(CLAUDETTE POINTS THE FINGER AT LISA.)

I have to go pick up my breast cancer medicine. Can you believe it's going to cost me \$ 120.00? I think the whole thing was made up just so they can make some easy money. Imagine, taking advantage of an old defenseless lady who's losing her life.

LISA

Mom, just take the medicine and you'll be fine. Are you coming to the party?

CLAUDETTE

Sure, I suppose so.

(CLAUDETTE WALKS TO THE DOOR. SHE OPENS THE DOOR AND LISA AND CLAUDETTE EXIT. JOHNNY IS STILL BEHIND THE STAIRCASE. HE IS IN SHOCK.)

JOHNNY

How can they say this about me? I don't believe it. Lisa has been unfaithful and that woman, her mother, cares more about her "life threatening" cancer than she does about me.

(HE MAKES QUOTATION SIGNS WITH HIS FINGERS AS HE SAYS "LIFE THREATENING".)

I'll show them, I'll record everything.

(JOHNNY WALKS DOWN THE STAIRCASE AND OVER TO THE TABLE WHERE THE PHONE IS AND SITS DOWN. HE PULLS OUT A TAPE AND PLACES IT INTO THE TAPE RECORDER, HE INSTALLS THE RECORDING DEVICE INTO THE PHONE AND HIDES IT UNDER THE TABLE. JOHNNY THEN WALKS AWAY AND GOES UPSTAIRS TO THE BEDROOM.)

END SCENE

SCENE 13

(JOHNNY IS WALKING IN AN ALLEY AS BRAN STOPS HIM FROM BEHIND. THEY SHAKE HANDS AND LAUGH.)

CONTINUED:

BRAN

Hey Johnny, what's going on?

JOHNNY

Oh hi Bran, what's new?

BRAN

Actually Johnny, I got a little bit of a tragedy on my hands.

JOHNNY

Did Michelle betray you or something?

BRAN

No, nothing horrible like that! I'd probably kill myself if she ever did that.

JOHNNY

Who wouldn't? So tell me what happened.

BRAN

Me and Michelle were making out, at your place.

JOHNNY

Uh huh.

BRAN

And Lisa and Claudette sort of walked in on us in the middle of it. That's not the end of the story.

JOHNNY

Go on, I'm listening.

BRAN

We're going at it and I get out of there as fast as possible. I get my pants, I get my shirt, and I get out of there. And then about half way down the stairs, I realize that I had misplaced, I had forgotten something....my underwear.

(JOHNNY AND BRAN BEGIN TO LAUGH.)

CONTINUED: (2)

JOHNNY

Underwear?

BRAN

So I come back to get it, you know, and I pretend that I need a book, you know I'm looking for my book. I reach in and put the underwear in my pocket and it sort of slides out, and Claudette, she saw it sticking out of my pocket, and she pulls it out and she's showing everybody me underwears.

JOHNNY

You must be kidding. Underwear, I got the picture.

BRAN

I don't know what to do?

JOHNNY

Underwear, that's life.

BILLY

(BILLY IS CARRYING A FOOTBALL AND WALKS INTO THE ALLEY.)

Hey Johnny.

JOHNNY

Hey Billy.

BILLY

Do you guys want to play some football?

BRAN

I have to go see Michelle in a little bit, to make out with her. So I'm sorry.

JOHNNY

Oh come on!

BILLY

What's the matter Bran, are you chicken? CHIP! CHIP!!!

CONTINUED: (3)

JOHNNY

Ha Ha! CHIP!!! CHIP!!!!

MARK

(MARK ARRIVES AND JOINS THE FUN MAKING. HE STARTS JUMPING UP AND DOWN, FLAPPING HIS ARMS AND KICKING THE AIR.)

CHIP!!! CHIP!!! BBBRRRRRRRAAAAAAAWKK!!!! CAW!!! CAW!!!!!!

JOHNNY

Ha Ha! Oh hi Mark!

BRAN

Okay guys, whatever.

BILLY

Hey what's up Mark?

MARK

Hey Billy, what's up?

JOHNNY

Let's go for it.

BILLY

I'm going out.

(BILLY GOES OUT AND CATCHES A PASS.)

BRAN

Sorry you had to see that.

BILLY

I'm not sorry.

(JOHNNY, BRAN, MARK, AND BILLY PLAY CATCH THE FOOTBALL AS THEY LAUGH.)

CONTINUED: (4)

BILLY

Studying right? I don't study like that.

BRAN

I bet you wish you did.

(BRAN NODS TOWARD JOHNNY. JOHNNY LAUGHS AT THE COMMENT.)

BILLY

Catch it.

MARK

What's going on you guys?

BILLY

He's just telling us about an underwear issue.

MARK

Underwear? What's that?

BRAN

It's embarrassing man. I don't want to get into it.

MARK

Underwear....It's the underpants man!

(MARK SUDDENLY JUMPS TO INTERCEPT A PASS. HE MISSES AND LANDS WITH A HEAVY STOMP ON BRAN'S FOOT. MARK BENDS OVER TO CATCH HIS BALANCE AND THE FOOTBALL BOUNCES OFF MARK'S BACK AND INTO BRAN'S FACE. BRAN LOSES HIS BALANCE AND FALLS BACKWARD INTO SOME TRASH CANS. THEY ALL RUSH TO HIS SIDE.)

BILLY

Does anyone know CPR?

JOHNNY

I do! Bran, are you okay?

CONTINUED: (5)

BILLY

Are you okay?

BRAN

I'm fine.

MARK

Sure?

BRAN

Uh huh.

JOHNNY

Do you want to go see a doctor?

BRAN

No, no, no. I'm good, I'm alright. I'm fine.

JOHNNY

Yeah Mark, take him to a doctor, and Bran, listen if you need anything call me anytime alright. We are very good friends and I will do everything in my power to help you get better.

(MARK IS HELPING BRAN WALK AWAY.)

BILLY

Take care of him Mark!

(BILLY PICKS UP THE FOOTBALL AND STARTS TO CRY.)

Oh man....oh man, oh man.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY PUTS HIS ARM AROUND BILLY AND TOGETHER THEY START TO SING AS THEY WATCH MARK AND BRAN HEAD OFF TO THE HOSPITAL.)

JOHNNY/BILLY

Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war....

END SCENE

SCENE 14

JOHNNY IS SITTING NEXT TO THE PHONE. HE LOOKS AROUND TO CHECK THAT NO ONE IS AROUND THEN PULLS OUT THE TAPE RECORDER FROM UNDER THE TABLE. HE PRESSES SOME BUTTONS ON THE ANSWERING MACHINE AND MUFFLED VOICES ARE HEARD AS THE TAPE PLAYS. JOHNNY IS SHAKING HIS HEAD AND LOOKING VERY DISTURBED. HE SUDDENLY TAKES OUT THE TAPE AND HURLES IT ACROSS THE ROOM AS HE SCREAMS.

THERE IS A RING OF THE DOORBELL AND JOHNNY WALKS OVER AND OPENS THE DOOR. PETER, AN INTELLECTUAL AND A PSYCHOLOGIST WHO WEARS GLASSES IS AT THE DOOR. JOHNNY INVITES HIM IN.

JOHNNY

Oh hi Peter, I'm so glad you stopped by. Come in and have a seat, I'll get some water for us to drink.

(PETER SITS DOWN ON THE COUCH AND JOHNNY GOES TO THE KITCHEN AND COMES BACK WITH TWO GLASSES AND A PITCHER OF WATER WHICH HE POURS FOR BOTH OF THEM. JOHNNY SITS DOWN.)

I don't understand women. Do you Peter?

PETER

Of course I do. I'm a psychologist. What's the problem?

JOHNNY

They never say what they mean, and they always play games.

(JOHNNY HANDS PETER A GLASS OF WATER.)

PETER

Okay, what do you mean?

JOHNNY

I have a serious problem with Lisa. I don't think she's being faithful to me. In fact, I know she isn't.

PETER

Lisa? Are you sure?

CONTINUED:

JOHNNY

I'm sure. I overheard a conversation between Lisa and her mother, and I recorded some phone conversations she had with a guy who has a voice that coincidentally sounds very similar to the voice of Mark, who is my best friend. What should I do Peter?

PETER

This is Lisa we are talking about?

JOHNNY

Yeah.

PETER

Are you sure?

JOHNNY

Yes.

PETER

What would you like me to say?

JOHNNY

You are a psychologist, Peter. Don't you have some advice?

PETER

(PETER IS STANDING AND DRINKING WATER.)

I am an expert, that's true, and it's not a very complicated situation. But Johnny, you are my friend and I don't want to get between you and Lisa. Look, I think you should confront her and show her who's the man of the house.

JOHNNY

I can't confront her, I have to give her a second chance. After all she's my future wife. You know what they say, love is blind.

CONTINUED: (2)

PETER

It's not about love, Johnny. It's about control, and the best way to control a female is to make them emotionally dependent on you. You didn't do that, so Lisa found it somewhere else.

(THE DOORBELL RINGS.)

Did you hear the door?

JOHNNY

Yeah.

(JOHNNY WALKS OVER AND OPENS THE DOOR.)

Oh hi Mark, come in.

MARK

(MARK ENTERS WITH A BIG SMILE.)

Oh hey Johnny. Hey Peter.

JOHNNY

We are just talking about women.

MARK

(MARK CLOSSES THE DOOR AND WALKS OVER TO THE CHAIR.)

Women, man, women just confuse me. Can't live with them, can't live without them, but we need them for baby making.

(MARK SITS DOWN ON THE CHAIR.)

I have a girl, but she's married. She's very attractive. It's driving me crazy.

PETER

Why didn't you mention this before? I'm a psychologist. Is it anyone I know?

MARK

(HE IS DEFENSIVE.)

What do you mean, is it someone you know?

CONTINUED: (3)

JOHNNY

Can I meet her?

MARK

Why would you want to do that, Johnny? I mean, well, um, what would Lisa think? It's an awkward situation.

JOHNNY

Oh I see. You mean she's too old or you think I will take her away from you? Huh?

(JOHNNY AND PETER LAUGH.)

MARK

No!

JOHNNY

I have my own problems.

PETER

Tell me about your problems Johnny.

JOHNNY

Peter, you always play psychologist with us.

PETER

Look, I may be your friend, but by profession I am a psychologist, and that makes me an expert on these issues.

JOHNNY

Lisa is teasing me about whether we will get married or not, and we haven't made love in awhile. I don't know what to do.

PETER

What kind of man are you Johnny? People are people. Sometimes they can't see their own faults, so they need someone to tell them. You have to give it to her straight. It takes two to tango Johnny, and if all she has are two left feet she'll just end up stepping all over your toes. You're going to get hurt.

CONTINUED: (4)

MARK

Hey I'm thinking of moving to a better place man. I'm making some good money.

PETER

Look, you should tell her the truth. You are doing this for your girl, right?

JOHNNY

You are right Peter! Is she getting a divorce Mark?

MARK

You guys are too much! Hey, are you running Bay to Breakers this year?

JOHNNY

I am, sure.

PETER

No, I'm not going this year.

JOHNNY

Ha, ha!! Chicken Peter, you are just a little chicken!!!
Chip!!! Chip!!! Chip!!!! Chip!!!!!! Chip!!!!

MARK

Ha Ha!! Squeak!!! Squeak!!!! Honk!!! Little Chicken!!!

PETER

Who are you guys calling a chicken? I just don't like all the weirdos. There's too many weirdos.

JOHNNY

I don't mind. Mark, do you remember the one with the big tits, the blonde one?

MARK

How about the one with the bridal gown and the sign?

CONTINUED: (5)

JOHNNY

Oh yeah, "Please Marry Me". I almost took her up on it.

MARK

I never ate so much bread.

JOHNNY

The barbecue chicken and rice was delicious. That was cool.

PETER

You guys proved my point. You are both weird. You guys want to play cards?

JOHNNY

No, we can't. I expect Lisa any minute.

MARK

Hey, who's king of the house?

PETER

Yeah, you have to establish these guidelines before you get married. How did you meet Lisa? you never told us.

JOHNNY

It's a very interesting story. When I moved to San Francisco I had two suitcases and I didn't know anyone. I hit the YMCA with a two thousand dollar check that I couldn't cash.

MARK

Why not?

JOHNNY

Because it was an out of state bank. Anyway, I was working as a bus boy in a hotel and Lisa was sitting, drinking her coffee and she was so beautiful, and I say hi to her. That's how we met.

MARK

So, what's the interesting part?

CONTINUED: (6)

PETER

Oh give us a break Mark! Isn't it obvious? A two thousand dollar out of state bank issued check that he can't cash? Ha Ha Ha! That's quite the conundrum. I'll bet it's never been cashed, has it.

JOHNNY

You're right Peter, on both counts. I had the uncashed check laminated and placed in a photo album, which is indeed very interesting. But, even more interesting is that Lisa was living in San Francisco at the time.

MARK

So?

(JOHNNY TAKES A DEEP BREATH AND PETER LOOKS AT THE FLOOR.)

JOHNNY

Don't you see, Mark? Lisa had her own home in the city. She did not need to stay in a hotel. She had some kind of inexplicable urge to spend the night in that very hotel, during my shift. It was meant to be!

MARK

What, no tips from your job?

(JOHNNY AND PETER LOOK AT EACH OTHER WITH AWKWARD SILENCE.)

JOHNNY

Whatever, do you guys want to eat something?

(JOHNNY WALKS OVER TO THE KITCHEN AS PETER AND MARK SHAKE THEIR HEAD.)

LISA

(LISA AND BILLY WALK IN. MARK TURNS AROUND AND LOOKS AT LISA.)

Hey guys. What's going on?

CONTINUED: (7)

PETER

Oh, hey Lisa.

MARK

Hey Lisa.

(MARK GETS UP FROM THE CHAIR AND STANDS IN FRONT OF LISA AND BILLY. BILLY IS LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW.)

LISA

Where's Johnny?

MARK

He's in the kitchen. I got to go.

LISA

I didn't mean to chase you off. I wish you'd stick around for awhile.

MARK

Are you crazy? I have to be at work early. See ya.

(MARK LOOKS AT BILLY AND EXITS THE LIVING ROOM. PETER THEN GETS UP AND LEAVES. BILLY SITS ON THE FLOOR.)

LISA

Why are you sitting on the floor Billy?

BILLY

It's hard to explain, you wouldn't understand.

LISA

(SHE IS SCREAMING.)

You son of a bitch!!! What the hell is the matter with you!? You're the reason I drink! If you don't get up this instant I'm going to belt whip you so hard you'll wish you were going to the moon!

CONTINUED: (8)

BILLY

(BILLY STANDS UP FROM THE FLOOR.)

There, are you happy now?

LISA

(STILL SCREAMING.)

I am happy!!! Look Billy! I have to talk to Johnny! I'll see you later!!!

BILLY

Will you tell him I said hello?

LISA

Alright!!!

BILLY

Yes!

(WITH AN OBNOXIOUS GRIN, BILLY SARCASTICALLY SKIPS TO THE FRONT DOOR AND EXITS, THEN LISA STOMPS INTO THE KITCHEN.)

END SCENE

ACT III

SCENE 15

PETER COMES OUT OF THE DOOR TO THE ROOF AND FINDS MARK SITTING ON THE BENCH LOOKING DEPRESSED.

PETER

Oh, hi Mark. What's happening?

MARK

Hi Peter.

PETER

(PAUSE.)

This is a good place to think, huh?

CONTINUED:

MARK

(MARK PULLS A JOINT OUT OF HIS POCKET AND LIGHTS IT.)

You wanna put me on the clock?

PETER

What's that?

(HE POINTS AT THE JOINT.)

MARK

(HE OFFERS THE JOINT TO PETER.)

You want some?

PETER

No man. You know I don't smoke that stuff. You look depressed.

MARK

I got this sick feeling in my stomach. I did something awful. I just can't forgive myself.

PETER

Why don't you tell me about it?

MARK

Well, I feel like running, or killing myself. Something crazy like that.

PETER

Why are you smoking that crap? No wonder you can't think straight. That stuff will mess up your brain.

MARK

Anyway, it's none of your business. Why are you so nosy? You think you know everything. You don't know shit.

CONTINUED: (2)

PETER

Just a minute. Who do you think you are? You're acting like a kid. Grow up.

MARK

(MARK THROWS THE JOINT TO THE FLOOR AND SMASHES IT OUT WITH HIS SHOE, AND HE IS YELLING.)

Who are you calling a kid? Fuck you!

PETER

(PETER GRABS HIM BY THE ARM AND THEY STAND UP TOGETHER.)

Cool it Mark. I'm just trying to help you. I know you're having an affair with Lisa. Am I wrong?

MARK

(HE JERKS HIS ARM AWAY FROM PETER'S GRIP AND HITS HIM IN THE FACE WITH HIS FIST. HE KNOCKS HIM DOWN. PETER IS UNCONSCIOUS. MARK STARES AT HIM.)

Wake up man. Wake up

(HE LOOKS AROUND AND SEES A BUCKET OF WATER, GRABS IT AND POURS IT ON PETER'S FACE.)

PETER

(PETER SHAKES HIS HEAD AND SLOWLY WAKES UP. THEN HE SITS UP.)

What are you doing? Are you crazy?

MARK

I'm sorry, I didn't mean it. You're my best friend. Are you okay?

PETER

Don't worry about it. Let's just talk about your problem.

(PETER TAKES HIS SHIRT OFF AND WIPES HIS FACE WITH IT.)

CONTINUED: (3)

MARK

(MARK SITS NEXT TO PETER.)

Are you sure you're okay?

(PAUSE.)

Why do you want to know my secret? Well, you're right, it's Lisa. I don't know what to do. I'm so depressed. I think I'll kill myself. Johnny is my best friend. She's so manipulative.

PETER

How did this happen? If Johnny finds out that will be the end of your friendship. What were you thinking? Look, life is very complex, but you have to face it. You should have to be responsible. My advice to you is that you should stop thinking about her, and never do sex with her. Find another girl. That's my advice. Lisa's a sociopath. She only cares about herself, and she's incapable of loving anyone.

MARK

Whatever Peter. Let's go.

(THEY GO OUT THE DOOR.)

END SCENE

SCENE 16

JOHNNY IS ON THE PHONE DRESSED IN A TUXEDO.

JOHNNY

Oh thank you. Thanks a lot.

(JOHNNY HANGS UP THE PHONE. BILLY ENTERS, ALSO DRESSED IN A TUXEDO AND HOLDING A FOOTBALL.)

JOHNNY

Oh hi Billy. That was some funeral wasn't it.

BILLY

Yeah, I'm just glad it's over.

CONTINUED:

JOHNNY

Billy, we had to make sure Jimmy was really dead. Now that we all saw him lain down in that funeral casket we can be sure he'll never trouble you ever again for his money.

BILLY

There's just some things I don't understand Johnny.

JOHNNY

Like what? Death? The meaning of life? Love?

BILLY

No, I mean what happened at the police station. Didn't you take Jimmy straight there? It's all very strange.

JOHNNY

Well you know, the police have to deal with all sorts of crazy people. So, sometimes at the station the police have to do what may seem to us like some strange things.

BILLY

But they said all his blood was sucked out of his body.

JOHNNY

Some very....strange things.

BILLY

(THE DOORBELL RINGS. BILLY OPENS THE DOOR AND PETER WALKS IN WEARING A TUXEDO.)

Hey Peter, come in.

PETER

It's too bad about Jimmy. I know he was a bad guy, but that was just crazy. Besides, funerals are so depressing.

JOHNNY

Hey that's life. Have a seat Peter.

CONTINUED: (2)

(PETER SITS DOWN ON A CHAIR. THE DOORBELL RINGS AGAIN AND BILLY OPENS THE DOOR. MARK ENTERS CLEAN SHAVEN AND HAS A BIG SMILE. HE IS WEARING A TUXEDO.)

BILLY

Wow!

JOHNNY

Wow!

MARK

Hey guys. You like it?

PETER/JOHNNY/BILLY

YEAH!

JOHNNY

You look great. You look like babyface.

PETER

What's the occasion Mark?

MARK

I started a new job and they told me I can't show up there looking like a caveman. So there you have it.

BILLY

What did you think of the funeral Mark? We were looking for you.

MARK

What funeral?

BILLY

Okay..... Hey, you guys want to play some catch the football?

PETER

In tuxes, you gotta be kidding?

CONTINUED: (3)

BILLY

Come on Mark, let's do it.

MARK

I'm up for it.

BILLY

Johnny?

JOHNNY

Ask Mr. Glasses-Head over there.

BILLY

Come on Peter.

PETER

No, I don't think so.

BILLY

Please?? Come on. CHIP!!!!

BILLY/JOHNNY

CHIP!!!! CHIP!!!

(BILLY AND JOHNNY MAKE CHICKEN NOISES AS THEY FLAP THEIR ARMS.)

MARK

(MARK STARTS PRANCING AROUND THE ROOM, CLAPPING HIS HANDS.)

HEE-HAW!! MOOOO!!!! RIBBIT!!! RIBBIT!!!!!! PRA-SKWWWAAAWWW!!!!

END SCENE

SCENE 17

JOHNNY, MARK, BILLY, AND PETER ALL RUN OUT TOGETHER, YELLING, AND BEGIN TO PLAY CATCH THE FOOTBALL.

CONTINUED:

BILLY

Catch Johnny! Nice snag! All right Peter! Here we go Mark!
Come on!

(BILLY MAKES A GREAT CATCH FROM MARK.)

Catch Mark.

MARK

(MARK WINDS UP AND MOTIONS TO PETER THAT HE'S GOING TO THROW
A LONG BOMB.)

Go, go...

(PETER RUNS DEEP AND FALLS FLAT ON HIS FACE. HIS LEG IS HURT.
MARK, BILLY, AND JOHNNY RUSH OVER TO SEE IF HE'S OKAY.)

BILLY

Gee Mark, why don't you try NOT hurting someone for a change.

PETER

It's not his fault. It's those damn drugs!

JOHNNY

Come on, let's go see a doctor.

(MARK, JOHNNY, AND BILLY HELP PETER GET UP AND THEY ALL WALK
OFF TOGETHER.)

END SCENE

SCENE 18

JOHNNY IS IN THE KITCHEN GETTING READY FOR WORK, AND LISA IS
STILL ASLEEP. HE FINISHES HIS BREAKFAST, THEN HE GOES OVER TO
THE ANSWERING MACHINE AND PRESSES A FEW BUTTONS. THE TAPE
RECORDER STARTS PLAYING AND MUFFLED VOICES ARE HEARD. JOHNNY
LOOKS VERY ANGRY. HE PRESSES SOME MORE BUTTONS THEN REGAINS
HIS COMPOSURE.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY GOES OVER TO LISA AND KISSES HER ON THE CHEEK.)

Bye Lisa.

CONTINUED:

(JOHNNY GOES OUT THE DOOR.)

LISA

(LISA WAKES UP AND GOES TO THE KITCHEN AND FIXES HERSELF A CUP OF COFFEE. SHE GOES TO THE PHONE AND DIALS A NUMBER.)

Hello mom. How are you?

CLAUDETTE

I'm okay. How are you?

LISA

There it us again.

CLAUDETTE

What are you talking about?

LISA

That clicking noise. The phone's been making a strange sound lately.

CLAUDETTE

You should report it to the phone company. Utilities are very expensive these days. Did you call a repair technician?

LISA

No, I think I'll just by a new phone. There's a Radio-Shack nearby.

CLAUDETTE

Well, as long as Johnny's paying for it. So, how are you?

LISA

I'm fixing the apartment for Johnny's birthday, but I'm really not into it.

CLAUDETTE

Why not?

CONTINUED: (2)

LISA

Oh, I don't want to get married. I love Mark. Don't you understand that?

CLAUDETTE

It's not right Lisa. You should still keep Johnny because he's very independent, and you ain't. Think about the money.

LISA

Yeah, but I'm not happy anymore. Before I met Mark I didn't think he would blow my mind.

CLAUDETTE

What are you talking about? You weren't meant to be happy. I haven't been happy since I got married for the first time. I didn't want to marry your dad either. I've been miserable since then. It's true, men are all assholes. You have to use them and abuse them. There's nothing wrong with that.

LISA

I know. Johnny's okay, and I have him wrapped around my little finger.

CLAUDETTE

Well, then you should be happy.

LISA

But, I don't love him.

CLAUDETTE

Don't throw your life away just because you don't love him. That's ridiculous. You've got to grow up and listen to me.

LISA

Okay, I'll see you at the party then.

CLAUDETTE

Bye.

END SCENE

SCENE 19

JOHNNY AND MARK ENTER A COFFEE SHOP AND APPROACH THE COUNTER. WE SEE STEAMED MILK BEING PREPARED BY SUSAN, THE BARISTA. JOHNNY IS READING SOME FINE PRINT ON A FOLDER AND HOLDING THE FOLDER DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF HIS FACE, COVERING IT FROM VIEW.

JOHNNY

Hi, can I have a hot chocolate please?

(JOHNNY THEN PUTS DOWN THE FOLDER, REVEALING HIS FACE.)

SUSAN

Oh hi Johnny! I didn't know it was you. What size would you like?

JOHNNY

Medium.

SUSAN

Sure.

(SHE LOOKS AT MARK.)

How about you?

MARK

I'll have a mint tea.

SUSAN

Medium also?

MARK

Whatever floats your boat.

SUSAN

Go sit down. We'll be right there.

(MARK AND JOHNNY GO SIT DOWN AT A TABLE.)

MARK

Man, I'm so tired of girl's games.

CONTINUED:

JOHNNY

What happened now Mark?

MARK

Relationships never work man, I don't know why I waste my time.

JOHNNY

What makes you say that?

MARK

It's not that easy Johnny.

JOHNNY

Well, you should be happy Mark.

MARK

Yeah I know. Life is too short.

JOHNNY

Maybe for you it is.

(SUSAN BRINGS BY THEIR BEVERAGES TO JOHNNY AND MARK.)

JOHNNY

Oh thank you Susan.

SUSAN

You're welcome. Now how about something you can really get into with a fork, like cheesecake?

MARK

No!

JOHNNY

No, not today, maybe some other day. But thanks for thinking about it.

CONTINUED: (2)

SUSAN

Real good. Okay then. Fine, alright.

(JOHNNY AND MARK ARE DRINKING THEIR DRINKS.)

MARK

How was work today?

JOHNNY

Pretty good. We got a new client and the bank will make a lot of money.

MARK

What client? Do I know him? What's his name?

JOHNNY

I can't tell you, it's confidential.

MARK

Oh come on man, why not? I thought we were best friends.

JOHNNY

No, I cannot. Anyway, how's your sex life?

MARK

I can't talk about it.

JOHNNY

Why not, are you hiding something?

(MARK GETS NERVOUS.)

SUSAN

(AT THAT VERY MOMENT SUSAN COMES OVER AND PUTS THE BILL DOWN ON THE TABLE.)

Take your time.

CONTINUED: (3)

MARK

(MARK PICKS UP THE BILL AND SEES AN OPPORTUNITY TO DRAW JOHNNY'S ATTENTION AWAY FROM THEIR DISCUSSION. HE YELLS AT SUSAN.)

You son of a bitch!!! I didn't order this!

SUSAN

(SUSAN RUSHES OVER.)

What's wrong!?

MARK

Oh, whoops. I made a mistake, you were right.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY LOOKS DOWN AT HIS WATCH.)

Oh god I have to run.

MARK

Already?

JOHNNY

Yeah, I'm sorry.

MARK

Alright, it's on me.

JOHNNY

Wow! You really are the best friend a guy could ever have. See you Mark.

MARK

By the way, do you want to go jogging in Golden Gate Park?

JOHNNY

Yeah sure, what time?

CONTINUED: (4)

MARK

Golden Gate Park....about six thirty?

JOHNNY

Yeah, right on. Cool!

(JOHNNY GETS UP, SHAKES MARK'S HAND AND GRABS HIS DRINK.)

Okey, Dokey

(JOHNNY RUSHES OUT. MARK SIPES HIS TEA AND SMIRKS COYLY.)

END SCENE

SCENE 20

(MARK AND LISA ENTER THE BEDROOM THROUGH THE STAIRCASE. LISA GRABS MARK AGGRESSIVELY.)

MARK

What's going on here?

LISA

I like you very much, Sparky Marky.

MARK

Look come on, Johnny's my best friend.

(LISA GIGGLES.)

LISA

Just one more time.

(LISA GRABS MARK, REMOVES HIS SWEATER AND TOSSES HIM ONTO THE BED. LISA AND MARK BEGIN TO KISS INTENSELY.)

MARK

Oh yeah.

(MARK AND LISA CONTINUE TO GET MORE INTENSE AS THE LIGHTING FADES TO BLACK.)

END SCENE

SCENE 20

MARK IS SITTING UNDER A TREE AS JOHNNY ARRIVES IN HIS CAR,
BLASTING RAP MUSIC. THEY SHAKE HANDS AND START JOGGING.

MARK

Live fast, die young.

JOHNNY

Yeah that's the idea. You're right!

MARK

It's better to burn out than fade away.

JOHNNY

Yeah, that's it bro!!

MARK

In the warrior's code there's no surrender.

JOHNNY

You got it Mark, that's the one!!!

MARK

When there's thunder in your heart, every move is like a
lightning.

JOHNNY

Yes!!! Right on! Ha Ha!

(JOHNNY AND MARK JOG TO THE FINISH.)

END SCENE

SCENE 21

LISA IS SWEEPING THE FLOOR AS THE DOORBELL RINGS.

LISA

Who is it?

CONTINUED:

MARK

Delivery man....it's me Mark. Come on open up.

LISA

Mark's not here man.

(THEY ARE LAUGHING.)

Okay, come on in.

(MARK ENTERS THE ROOM CARRYING BAGS OF GROCERIES.)

LISA

Hey Mark.

MARK

Wow, so are you going to be ready?

LISA

How do you mean that? I'm always ready for you.

MARK

I mean for the party.

LISA

We have plenty of time. All I have to do is put on my party dress. Come on.

(LISA THROWS THE BROOM ASIDE AND TAKES OFF HER TOP. MARK STARES AT HER IN DISMAY.)

MARK

Wait, what are you doing?

LISA

Nothing.

(LISA REMOVES MARK'S SWEATER AND THEY FALL ONTO THE COUCH TOGETHER AND BEGIN TO KISS. MARK'S ZIPPER IS UNDONE.)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARK

Hold on, what about Johnny?

LISA

I sent him out to buy groceries.

MARK

Clever girl. You are so beautiful.

(THEY CONTINUE TO MAKE OUT AND KISS INTIMATELY. THERE'S A SUDDEN KNOCK AT THE DOOR WHICH PROPELS MARK AND LISA TO JUMP UP AND GET DRESSED IN A HURRY.)

LISA

Hurry up, I have to answer the door.

MARK

Wait! hang on, hang on, hang on.

(MARK IS STRUGGLING TO GET HIS SWEATER ON.)

LISA

Who is it?

MICHELLE

It's me, Michelle. I brought the stuff.

LISA

Michelle's not here man.

(MARK AND LISA EXPLODE WITH LAUGHTER. AFTER A MINUTE THEY CALM DOWN.)

Okay Michelle. It's open, come on in.

(MICHELLE COMES IN CARRYING A GROCERY BAG AND IS SHOCKED TO SEE MARK ADJUSTING HIS CLOTHES.)

LISA

How are you doing?

CONTINUED: (3)

MICHELLE

Hi, I'm fine. I brought the stuff.

LISA

I knew I could count on you.

MICHELLE

Hi Mark, XYZ.

MARK

What are you talking about? Are you crazy or something?

MICHELLE

Examine your zipper.

MARK

(MARK LOWERS HIS HEAD AND CAREFULLY EXAMINES HIS ZIPPER, LOOKING AT IT CLOSELY AND REPEATEDLY TESTING THAT IT CLOSES AND OPENS CORRECTLY.)

It seems okay to me.

LISA

Come on you guys, I'm trying to prepare for the party.

MICHELLE

So what can i do to help?

MARK

(MARK IS STILL CHECKING HIS ZIPPER.)

You can help by telling me what's wrong with my zipper.

(MICHELLE AND LISA LAUGH AND THEY SIT DOWN ON THE COUCH TOGETHER. MARK EXITS THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR WHILE STILL LOOKING AT HIS ZIPPER, REPEATEDLY ZIPPING IT UP AND DOWN.)

MICHELLE

What was he doing here?

CONTINUED: (4)

LISA

Oh, he brought some take-out.

MICHELLE

What about his zipper!!!!

(MICHELE AND LISA LAUGH HYSTERICALLY.)

LISA

Leave him alone. He's a nice guy.

MICHELLE

No, I mean-did something happen?

LISA

He tried to rape me, but I didn't let him.

MICHELLE

Did you tell Johnny yet?

LISA

No, they are good friends.

MICHELLE

I know. Tricky! Tricky!

LISA

You know, I really loved Johnny at first.

MICHELLE

Really? I thought you loved him now.

LISA

Until now I did. I think I still love him. Everything's changed. I need more from life than what Johnny can give me. Suddenly my eyes are wide open and I see the light. I want it all.

CONTINUED: (5)

MICHELLE

Do you think you can get it all from Mark?

LISA

I want to play the field. If he doesn't give me what I want then somebody else will.

MICHELLE

I think I don't know you anymore.

(MICHELLE IS LAUGHING.)

(PAUSE.)

You are being so manipulative Lisa.

LISA

So what, you can learn from me.

(LISA LAUGHS.)

(PAUSE.)

You have to take as much as you can. You have to live, live, live my friend. Don't worry, I have everything covered.

MICHELLE

Tell me more. Maybe I can understand your point of view.

LISA

Look, I don't want to talk about it. Let's put this stuff in bowls. We only have an hour before people start coming.

(LISA AND MICHELLE CARRY ON PARTY PREPARATIONS WHILE THEY ARE TALKING.)

MICHELLE

I want to know, it's important to me. You're my best friend. This really upsets me.

CONTINUED: (6)

LISA

I don't know what the big mystery is. Doesn't everybody look out for number one? Aren't I worth it? Don't I deserve the best?

MICHELLE

I can't do that. You are too much for me Lisa.

LISA

You're not such an angel yourself.

MICHELLE

We're not talking about me.

(MICHELLE THROWS A CHERRY TOMATO AT LISA. LISA THROWS A PRAWN IN MICHELLE'S FACE. THEY BOTH PLAYFULLY LAUGH.)

LISA

Stop it, they'll be here any minute. Are you trying to ruin my party?

MICHELLE

I'm with you, let's talk later. It looks to me like we're ready.

END SCENE

ACT IV

SCENE 22

JOHNNY IS SITTING INSIDE HIS CAR WHICH IS PARKED OUTSIDE THE APARTMENT. HE PUTS A TAPE IN THE CAR TAPE PLAYER AND PRESSES PLAY. WE HEAR THE VOICES OF MARK AND LISA.

VOICE OF MARK

We sure fooled Johnny, didn't we. He doesn't suspect a thing! We could carry on right under his nose and he wouldn't be the wiser. He still thinks I'm his best friend!

CONTINUED:

VOICE OF LISA

Johnny does whatever I tell him. I have him totally whipped. The best part is he totally trusts me and thinks I will never betray him.

VOICE OF MARK

I know. What a dope! Har har har!!!

VOICE OF LISA

He's as good in bed as he is at getting promotions.... Awful!

(JOHNNY STOPS THE TAPE, THEN POUNDS HIS CHEST WITH HIS FISTS AND SCREAMS.)

END SCENE

SCENE 23

LISA IS WEARING A LITTLE BLACK DRESS AND IS SITTING ON THE COUCH. SHE EAGERLY LOOKS AT THE CLOCK AND WAITS A FEW MOMENTS. SUDDENLY THERE IS THE SOUND OF A KEY OPENING THE DOOR. THE DOOR OPENS AND JOHNNY ENTERS. HE IS VERY ANGRY.

LISA

Hi honey. happy birthday!

JOHNNY

(THE ANGRY LOOK ON JOHNNY'S FACE FADES.)

Thank you.

CROWD

(JUST THEN A DOOR OPENS AND A CROWD OF PEOPLE COMES OUT.)

Surprise!!!

(THE CROWD BEGINS TO SING HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO JOHNNY.)

Happy Birthday to you, happy birthday to you...

JOHNNY

Oh wow!

CONTINUED:

CROWD

Happy Birthday dear Johnny...

JOHNNY

Wow, alright, thank you..

CROWD

Happy Birthday to you..

JOHNNY

Thank you, thank you.

BILLY

(IN A SINGING VOICE.)

And many more....!

(EVERYONE IS LAUGHING AND CHEERING.)

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY TURNS TO LISA.)

I'll talk to you later.

(SEVERAL GUYS SHAKE JOHNNY'S HAND. THE GUYS SLAP HIM ON HIS BACK, AND THE GIRLS SLAP HIS BEHIND AND KISS HIM ON THE CHEEK, AND SOME OF THEM GIVE HIM PRESENTS. HE PUTS THEM ON THE COFFEE TABLE. JOHNNY PRETENDS TO BE HAPPY, BUT HE IS GLANCING AT LISA. FOR A WHILE THERE IS GENERAL CONVERSATION AND LAUGHING.)

END SCENE

SCENE 24

THE PARTY CONTINUES TO GROW AS EVERYONE IS HAVING A GREAT TIME. PEOPLE ARE MINGLING, DANCING, DRINKING, AND LAUGHING. MARK AND LISA CATCH EYES AND FLIRT AS JOHNNY TAKES NOTICE. BRAN AND MICHELLE FLIRT AS MICHELLE FEEDS HIM A PIECE OF CHOCOLATE CAKE AND BRAN FEEDS HIMSELF IN A JOKING MANNER. LISA WALKS OVER TO THEM AND LAUGHS.

CONTINUED:

LISA

Hey everybody, let's go outside for some fresh air!

(EVERYBODY CHEERS AND BEGINS TO LEAVE THE ROOM. LISA STOPS MARK AT THE DOOR. SHE CLOSES IT AND GRABS HIM.)

Wait, I have something i want to show you.

MARK

What is it?

(MARK AND LISA WALK OVER AND SIT DOWN ON THE COUCH. SHE PLACES HER LEGS ON MARK'S LAP.)

MARK

So, what do you want to show me?

LISA

It's a surprise.

(MARK AND LISA BEGIN TO KISS.)

MARK

Oh, I love surprises! But what are you doing? Are you crazy? Everybody's here.

LISA

No they're not. They're all outside.

(MARK AND LISA ARE GIGGLING.)

MARK

Lisa, you diabolical....you planned this all along! Now where's the surprise?

(LISA LAUGHS AND THEY KISS. SUDDENLY THE DOOR OPENS AND PETER COMES IN WHILE MARK AND LISA ARE KISSING.)

PETER

What's going on here!?

(LISA AND MARK STAND UP IN SHOCK.)

CONTINUED: (2)

PETER

Why are you doing this!?

MARK

It's a surprise!

LISA

Mark and I are two consenting adults. We have the right.

PETER

Well I don't approve. Now I want to know why you are doing this. Why!?

LISA

I love him.

PETER

I don't believe it.

MARK

You don't understand anything. Leave your stupid comments in your pocket.

PETER

Excuse me? 'MY' stupid comments!? Here's some words of wisdom for YOU, you comment making idiot. You think your opinions are so important and that you possess some natural-born expertise. But take it from ME, a REAL expert, when I say that your comments are even more stupider than you, the very person making them. Now, I have a lot of experience, so when I say something, it counts. That's because I'm very important and I know what I'm talking about, unlike feeble-minded you. I see you want to make a retort with a comment, do you? PSHAW!!! You can't make a comment because you're speechless, and you're too AFRAID. Besides, No one wants to hear your stupidity anyway.

(MARK STORMS OUT THE DOOR, SPEECHLESS, FURIOUS, AND AFRAID.)

CONTINUED: (3)

PETER (TO LISA)

Do you understand what you are doing? You are going to destroy Johnny. He is very sensitive.

LISA

I don't care. I'm in love with Mark.

PETER

How can you do this? You make me sick!

JOHNNY

(THE DOOR OPENS AND JOHNNY COMES IN WITH MICHELLE.)

Thank you honey, this is a beautiful party. You invited all my friends. Good thinking.

LISA

You're welcome darling. You know how much I love you.

JOHNNY

I do, Ha Ha Ha.

LISA

You know, it's getting really hot in here. Why don't we go back outside.

JOHNNY

Uh huh.

(LISA AND PETER MAKE THEIR WAY TO THE DOOR, AND EVERYBODY EXITS AS JOHNNY CLOSES THE DOOR.)

END SCENE

SCENE 25

THE PARTY IS NOW TAKING PLACE ON THE ROOF AS PEOPLE ARE DRINKING, LAUGHING, AND MINGLING. JOHNNY IS STANDING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CROWD.

CONTINUED:

JOHNNY

Hey everybody, I have an announcement to make. We are expecting!

(EVERYBODY CONGRATULATES JOHNNY BY SHAKING HIS HAND AND PATTING HIM ON THE BACK AND BEHIND. IT'S ALL SMILES AND LAUGHTER. HOWEVER, PETER AND MICHELLE STAND TOGETHER, LOOKING VERY WORRIED. MICHELLE TAKES LISA BY THE HAND AND LEADS HER TO AN UNOCCUPIED CORNER, AND PETER JOINS THEM.)

MICHELLE

Lisa, you have to be honest with Johnny.

PETER

I agree with that.

MICHELLE

(MICHELLE LOOKS AROUND.)

You know what's going on?

PETER

(PETER NODS HIS HEAD.)

Um hmmm.

LISA

Look, I'm going to tell him. I just don't want to spoil his birthday.

PETER

When is the baby due?

LISA

There is no baby.

MICHELLE/PETER

What!?

CONTINUED: (2)

PETER

What are you talking about?

LISA

I just told him that to make it interesting. Anyway, we'll probably have a baby eventually. You won't say anything to Johnny, will you?

MICHELLE

(MICHELLE PUTS HER HAND ON HER FOREHEAD.)

This is just getting worse and worse.

PETER

I feel like I'm sitting on an atomic bomb waiting for it to go off.

MICHELLE

Me too. There's no simple solution to this.

LISA

Don't worry. You guys worry entirely too much about me.

MICHELLE

Lisa, we're not worried about you, we are worried about Johnny. You don't understand the psychological impact of what you are doing here. You're hurting yourself, you are hurting OUR friendship.

PETER

Actually it's more like a thermonuclear bomb I'm sitting on, using the primary fission reaction from the atomic bomb I was previously sitting on to compress and ignite a secondary hydrogen based fusion reaction.

LISA

I am not responsible for Johnny. I'm through with that. I'm changing, the whole world's changing. I have the right, don't I? People are changing all the time. I have to think about my future. What's it to you?

CONTINUED: (3)

PETER

This is going to pull us all down, it's going to shake up our group of friends. It's going to destroy our friendship Lisa, it's going to destroy everything, just like in that movie, Dr. Strangelove. Except, I don't think Mark really loves you.

LISA

(LISA STANDS UP.)

I don't want to talk about it!

MICHELLE

Lisa, you are going to have to face it. I for one, am going to have a hard time forgiving you if you don't.

LISA

(LISA YELLS SO ALL CAN HEAR.)

Hey everybody, let's go inside and eat some cake!

(THE CROWD CHEERS AND LISA WALKS OFF WITH PETER AND MICHELLE.)

MICHELLE

I don't understand you Lisa.

PETER

Women. They're all the same.

END SCENE

SCENE 26

PEOPLE ARE ENJOYING THE CAKE.

BRAN

Lisa looks hot tonight.

(JOHNNY IS TALKING TO CLAUDETTE AND HE KISSES HER ON THE CHEEK AS THEY ARE LAUGHING. LISA IS BY THE COFFEE TABLE TALKING WITH PETER, BILLY, AND MICHELLE. MARK APPROACHES THIS GROUP, AND HE IS TIPSY.)

CONTINUED:

MARK

Come on, who's baby is it Lisa? Is it mine?

LISA

(SHE'S LOOKING VERY ANGRY.)

No, of course not.

MARK

(MARK STEPS CLOSER TO LISA AND PUTS HIS HAND ON HER ARM.)

How can you be sure anyway? Are you sure it's not mine?

LISA

(SHE'S LOOKING VERY ANGRY.)

Don't ask me any stupid questions!

MARK

(MARK HOLDS LISA'S ARM VERY TIGHTLY.)

Who the hell do you think you are!?

LISA

(LISA SLAPS HIM WITH HER OTHER HAND ON THE FACE.)

Just shut up!

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY SEES WHAT IS HAPPENING AND APPROACHES THEM.)

What's going on here?

MARK

You really don't know, do you?

LISA

He hurt my arm.

(SHE IS WHINING.)

CONTINUED: (2)

JOHNNY

I know more than you think I do, Mark.

MARK

What's that supposed to mean?

JOHNNY

Precisely what I said. That's why I chose the words.

MARK

You don't know shit!

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY IS VERY ANGRY)

What do you want from me? What do you want from me!!!!

MARK

I want you to just disappear, you little twerp.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY PUNCHES MARK IN THE SHOULDER.)

You leave Lisa alone, prick.

MARK

(MARK HITS JOHNNY IN THE FACE. JOHNNY RETURNS THE BLOW. THEY END UP ON THE FLOOR WRESTLING AND HITTING EACH OTHER.)

LISA

(LISA SCREAMS.....)

Stop! Stop! Stop! Peter! Michelle! Help!!! Help!!!....

(LISA, PETER AND MICHELLE TRY TO PULL THEM A PART. SEVERAL OTHER GUYS HELP LIFT THEM TO THEIR FEET AND HOLD THEM.)

CONTINUED: (3)

PETER

(PETER GRABS A BUCKET OF WATER AND ICE, AND POURS IT ON JOHNNY AND MARK. THE GUYS WHO ARE HOLDING MARK AND JOHNNY ALSO GET WET, AND THEY START LAUGHING AND SHOUTING AT PETER.)

MARK

Knock it off Peter! What are you doing, are you crazy?

BILLY

Peter can't be crazy! He's an expert psychologist!

(BILLY TURNS TOWARD PETER.)

Hey Peter, What's the difference between a psychologist and a duck?

PETER

I don't know. What?

BILLY

One's a quack, the other's a duck.

JOHNNY

The fight's over folks, everything's fine.

(JOHNNY STICKS OUT HIS HAND TO SHAKE MARK'S HAND.)

Sorry about that Mark.

MARK

Yeah, yeah. Me too.

JOHNNY

Lisa, can we have a big mop here?

(LISA GOES TO THE KITCHEN TO GET A MOP. PEOPLE START THROWING ICE AT EACH OTHER AND LAUGHING. THE PARTY GOES ON WITH PEOPLE TALKING, DRINKING AND EATING.)

CONTINUED: (4)

LISA

(LISA IS MOPPING THE FLOOR.)

You guys knock it off. You're just making more work for me.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY GOES TO THE BATHROOM AND COMES OUT WITH A STACK OF TOWELS.)

Towels, anyone?

(SEVERAL GUYS TAKE TOWELS AND WIPE THEIR FACES AND HAIRS, AND OTHERS SHOUT.)

MARK

Yeah, I'll take one, maybe a couple. Maid service, thank goodness.

(JOHNNY PUTS ON A HEAVY METAL MUSIC AND THE MOOD CHANGES TO FAST DANCING.)

END SCENE

SCENE 27

AFTER A WHILE LISA APPROACHES MARK TO DANCE. THEY ARE HOLDING HANDS WHILE DANCING, STARING INTO EACH OTHER'S EYES WITH SEDUCTIVE EXPRESSIONS, OFF AND ON TOUCHING EACH OTHER'S SHOULDERS, HIPS AND KNEES. SOON, JOHNNY NOTICES AND APPROACHES THEM.)

JOHNNY

What are you doing?

LISA

None of your business.

JOHNNY

You are my future wife. What the heck are you doing?

MARK

Leave her alone, man. She doesn't want to talk to you.

CONTINUED:

JOHNNY

(VERY ANGRILY)

Since when do you give me orders!

MARK

Since Lisa changed her mind about you. Wake up man. What planet are you on?

JOHNNY

I think you should leave right now.

LISA

Don't spoil it, we were just having fun.

MARK

(MARK POKES JOHNNY SLIGHTLY IN HIS SHOULDER.)

Don't worry about it, man. Everything's going to be alright.

JOHNNY

Don't touch me you stupid motherfucker. Leave my girl alone.

(JOHNNY GRABS MARK AROUND HIS NECK AND PUSHES HIM BACK TO THE WALL. MARK FORCES HIS HANDS BETWEEN JOHNNY'S ARMS AND BREAKS JOHNNY'S GRIP, GRABS ONE OF JOHNNY'S ARMS AND TWISTS IT BEHIND JOHNNY'S BACK. JOHNNY LEANS FORWARD AND BREAKS MARK'S GRIP AND WHIRLS AROUND WITH A HIGH JUMPING REVERSE ROUNDHOUSE DRAGON KICK TO THE SIDE OF MARK'S HEAD. AT THE SAME TIME LISA TRIES TO GET BETWEEN THEM SCREAMING.)

LISA

Stop! Stop! Why are you acting like children? Both of you are ruining the party.

(SEVERAL GUYS GRAB MARK AND JOHNNY AND PULL THEM BACK AWAY FROM EACH OTHER AND HOLD THEM. AT THE SAME TIME MARK AND JOHNNY AND THE OTHER GUYS ARE SHOUTING AT EACH OTHER. MICHELLE AND A FEW GIRLS TALK TO LISA TO CALM HER DOWN. EVERYBODY IS TALKING AT ONCE.)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARK

You son of a bitch dirty scum! If you keep your girl satisfied, she wouldn't come to me!

JOHNNY

Get out! If I ever see you again I will kill you. I will break every bone in your body, you son of a bitch asshole!

OTHER GUYS

(THE OTHER GUYS ARE FORCING MARK TOWARD THE DOOR AND SHOUTING.)

What are you doing, are you nuts?
You're supposed to be best friends.
Break it up, it's over.
Cool it you guys.
Mark, go home and take a cold shower.
They are so stupid.

MARK

(MARK IS SHOUTING FROM THE HALLWAY.)

You couldn't kill me if you tried.

JOHNNY

You bastard! You betray me! You are not good, you are just a wimp!!! I'll get you, you just wait!! You chicken!!! CHIP!!! CHIP!!!! CHIP!!!! CHIP!!!!

(CHICKEN NOISES.)

MARK

(MARK'S SHOUTING THINGS DOWN THE HALLWAY.)

Your ass is grass, and I'm the lawnmower!!! Go pee on an electric fence!!

JOHNNY

Remember Mark!! He who laughs last, laughs last! So go ahead, I dare you to say something in reply to me! I double dare you!! But I know you won't because you're too afraid!!!

(MARK STOMPS AWAY, FURIOUS AND AFRAID.)

CONTINUED: (3)

PETER

Chill out Johnny, it's over.

JOHNNY

It's not over! Everybody betray me. I'm fed up with this world!

(JOHNNY PICKS UP A PARTY GLASS AND THROWS IT AT THE FULL LENGTH MIRROR WHICH SHATTERS INTO SMALL PIECES. SOME GIRLS SCREAM AND BACK AWAY WITH SHOCKED EXPRESSIONS. JOHNNY WHIRLS AROUND AND STOMPS ANGRILY INTO THE BATHROOM AND SLAMS THE DOOR. IMMEDIATELY THERE ARE MORE SOUNDS OF CRASHING GLASS COMING FROM THE BATHROOM. LISA GOES TO THE BATHROOM AND TRIES TO OPEN THE DOOR, BUT IT'S LOCKED. SHE RATTLES THE DOORNOB AND SCREAMS AT JOHNNY. YELLING.)

LISA

Open the door! Come out Johnny!

(LISA BANGS ON THE DOOR WITH THE HEEL OF HER HAND. MICHELLE COMES OVER TO LISA.)

MICHELLE

Calm down Lisa. I never saw him like this.

PETER

(PETER COMES OVER.)

Lisa, it's getting late. I'm going to have to go soon. But, I don't want to leave you like this.

LISA

I'm alright. This is between Johnny and me anyway.

BILLY

Good idea Peter. The party's over. Besides, it was a big lame-O anyway.

(HE MAKES "L" THEN "O" SIGNS WITH HIS HANDS.)

I'm also leaving.

CONTINUED: (4)

BRAN

Me too.

(BILLY AND BRAN LEAVE.)

CLAUDETTE

(CLAUDETTE, WEARING AN APRON, IS SWEEPING UP BROKEN MIRROR GLASS AND DISPOSING OF IT.)

Don't worry Lisa, I'll stay here and help you.

OTHER PEOPLE

(OTHER PEOPLE TAKE THE HINT AND START GETTING READY TO LEAVE. SEVERAL WOMEN PICK UP EMPTY BOTTLES AND GLASSES AND CARRY THEM TO THE KITCHEN. SOME OTHER PEOPLE GATHER IN A CORNER AND WHISPER AMONG THEMSELVES, LAUGHING AND FINISHING THEIR DRINKS. GRADUALLY THE PEOPLE LEAVE, THANKING LISA FOR INVITING THEM.)

See you later.
Bye Johnny.
See you Johnny.
See you Lisa.
Happy birthday.
Are you going to be alright Lisa?
See you everybody.
Bye.

LISA

Don't worry about me, I'll be fine.
See you later.
See you later.
See you later.

PETER

(PETER KNOCKS ON THE BATHROOM DOOR)

Johnny, I'm leaving now. I want to shake your hand.

JOHNNY

Go on Peter, I'll talk to you tomorrow. Thanks for everything.

CONTINUED: (5)

PETER

I want to talk to you before I leave.

(JOHNNY DOESN'T RESPOND. PETER TURNS TO LISA.)

PETER

He's pretty stubborn, isn't he?

LISA

We'll work it out, you can go now.

PETER

Alright, you call me anytime if you need me. See you later.

(PETER GIVES A LITTLE KISS ON LISA'S CHEEK AND TURNS TO MICHELLE.)

PETER

See you next Friday, Michelle.

MICHELLE

Sure Peter. You take care. Bye.

(PETER GOES OUT THE DOOR.)

MICHELLE

Lisa, can I help you clean up?

LISA

No thanks Michelle. Mom's going to do it. Thanks for all your help.

MICHELLE

Where is your mom? I don't see her.

LISA

She's in the kitchen, if I know my mom.

CONTINUED: (6)

CLAUDETTE

(FROM THE KITCHEN.)

I heard that, Lisa. Get your pretty little buns in here and help.

MICHELLE

Well, I guess I'll leave it to the family.

LISA

Bye, Bye, see you later, Michelle. Thanks for your help.

MICHELLE

Bye, Lisa. It was my pleasure.

(MICHELLE GOES OUT THE DOOR.)

LISA

(LISA GOES TO THE KITCHEN.)

Mom, what am I going to do? He won't come out of the bathroom.

CLAUDETTE

Don't bother me about it. I'm not talking to him. He is prick. He won't even help a poor old dying lady.

LISA

Oh, never mind.

(LISA GOES TO THE BATHROOM DOOR AND RATTLES THE NOB.)

Johnny! Hey, Johnny!

JOHNNY

I won't come out until she leaves.

LISA

Why are you being such a baby?

CONTINUED: (7)

CLAUDETTE

(CLAUDETTE COMES OUT OF THE KITCHEN DRYING HER HANDS ON A KITCHEN TOWEL.)

Don't worry!!!! I'm leaving!!!!

(SHE IS TALKING LOUD ENOUGH FOR JOHNNY TO HEAR. SHE FOLDS THE TOWEL AND TAKES OFF HER APRON AND FOLDS IT.)

LISA

I'm glad you could come mom, thanks for your help.

CLAUDETTE

Don't mention it dear. Call me tomorrow and we'll see how you feel.

LISA

I'll get your coat.

(LISA HELPS HER MOTHER WITH HER COAT, AND CLAUDETTE GOES OUT THE DOOR.)

CLAUDETTE

Good night dear, sweet dreams. Be good to Johnny.

(TO JOHNNY.)

Good night Johnny!

LISA

I'll try. Good night mom.

(LISA GOES TO THE BATHROOM DOOR.)

LISA

Come out now Johnny, she's gone.

JOHNNY

In a few minutes bitch.

CONTINUED: (8)

LISA

Who are you calling a bitch?

JOHNNY

You and your stupid mother.

LISA

(LISA GOES OVER TO THE PHONE AND PUNCHES NUMBERS, THEN WALKS HOLDING IT TO HER EAR AS FAR INTO THE KITCHEN AS THE CORD WILL STRETCH.)

Hi Mark, I need to talk to you. Don't pay any attention to Johnny, he's being a big baby. You know I love you very much. You're the sparkle of my life. I can't live without you. I love you.

MARK

Why don't you ditch this creep. I don't like him anymore.

LISA

I know, he's not worth it. Why don't I come up there and be with you?

MARK

Sure baby, come on up. I want your body.

LISA

You got it. I'm on my way. Bye.

(LISA HANGS UP.)

JOHNNY

(ANGRILY, JOHNNY COMES OUT OF THE BATHROOM.)

Who were you talking to?

LISA

(LISA TAKES A CANVAS BAG OUT OF THE CLOSET.)

Nobody.

CONTINUED: (9)

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY WALKS TO THE ANSWERING MACHINE AND PUSHES SOME
BUTTONS.)

We'll just see about that!

VOICE OF LISA

Hi Mark, I need to talk to you. Don't pay any attention to
Johnny, he's being a big baby. You know I love you very much.
You're the sparkle of my life. I can't live without you. I
love you.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY PRESSES THE PAUSE BUTTON.)

You little tramp! how could you do this to me! I gave you
seven years of my life! Let's see what else we have on this
tape!

LISA

No stop! You little prick! I put up with you for seven years!
You think you are an angel, but you're just like everybody.

JOHNNY

I treat you like a princess and you stabbed me in the back. I
love you and I did everything to please you, and now you
betray me...how could you love him!! Let's hear the tape.

(JOHNNY PRESSES A BUTTON.)

VOICE OF MARK

Why don't you ditch this creep. I don't like him anymore.

VOICE OF LISA

I know, he's not worth it. Why don't I come up there and be
with you?

VOICE OF MARK

Sure baby, come on up. I want your body.

CONTINUED: (10)

VOICE OF LISA

You got it. I'm on my way. Bye.

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY PICKS UP THE MACHINE AND YANKS IT TO BREAK THE WIRE AND THROWS IT AGAINST THE WALL.)

Everybody betray me! I don't have a friend in the world!

LISA

I'm leaving you Johnny.

(LISA GOES TO THE BATHROOM WITH HER BAG, THROWS A FEW THINGS INTO IT AND RUNS OUT THE DOOR WITH IT.)

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY IS YELLING WHILE LISA IS SLAMMING THE DOOR.)

Get out! Get out! Get out of my life!!!

(JOHNNY PICKS UP THE TV AND THROWS IT THROUGH THE WINDOW. THERE'S A BIG NOISE AND CRASH OUTSIDE THE WINDOW. HE YELLS.)

JOHNNY

Screw the whole world! I don't need them!

(MORE GLASS SHATTERS. JOHNNY TIPS A CHAIR OVER, THEN THE SOFA AND GRABS A LAMP AND THROWS IT OUT THE BROKEN WINDOW. WE HEAR A DISTANT CRASH. HE CLEARS OFF THE SHELF WITH HIS HANDS. BOOKS AND OTHER ITEMS FALL ON THE FLOOR. WHATEVER HE SEES HE THROWS AGAINST THE WALLS.)

NEIGHNOR #1.

(SOMEONE BANGS ON THE FRONT DOOR.)

What's going on in there? Open up! open up! Are you okay?

(THERE IS MORE BANGING ON THE DOOR.)

CONTINUED: (11)

JOHNNY

(JOHNNY GOES INTO THE CLOSET AND THROWS OUT EVERYTHING HE SEES AND FINDS A WOODEN BOX ABOUT THE SIZE OF A SHOE BOX. HE TRIES TO PULL IT OPEN, BUT HE CAN'T. HE THROWS IT TO THE FLOOR BUT IT DOESN'T OPEN. HE KICKS IT, BUT IT DOESN'T OPEN. HE PULLS A PIECE OF METAL FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE CHAIR AND PRIES OPEN THE PADLOCK AND SUCCEEDS. HE OPENS THE BOX AND TAKES OUT A GUN. HE IS CRYING.)

Why? Why? Why? Why is this happening to me! Why? Why is this happening to me! I can't deal with this any more! It's over! It's over!

(SUDDENLY HE STARES INTO THE CLOSET. HE REACHES IN AND PULLS OUT A SEXY NIGHTGOWN. HE HOLDS IT AT ARM'S LENGTH.)

You tramp! You tramp!

(HE THROWS IT DOWN ON THE FLOOR. HE REACHES IN AND PULLS OUT MORE OF LISA'S CLOTHES AND THROWS THEM ON THE FLOOR. HE LIES ON THE CLOTHES, UNZIPPING HIS ZIPPER. HE IS BREATHING HARD AND WRITHING WITH PELVIC THRUSTS.)

(WHEN HE FINISHES, HE SITS UP AND PICKS UP THE GUN. HIS FINGER IS ON THE TRIGGER. TEARS ARE FLOWING DOWN HIS CHEEKS. HE THROWS THE GUN AWAY FROM HIM. HE IS CRYING WITH HIS FACE IN HIS HANDS. AFTER A WHILE, HE CRAWLS TO THE GUN, STILL CRYING OUT LOUD. HE REACHES FOR THE GUN WITH HIS HAND SHAKING. HE PICKS IT UP AND POINTS IT AT THE MIDDLE OF HIS FOREHEAD.)

JOHNNY

God forgive me.

(JOHNNY PULLS THE TRIGGER. HE COLLAPSES ON THE FLOOR GROANING. HE IS DEAD.)

LISA

(LISA OPENS THE DOOR TO THE APARTMENT. MARK RUSHES IN PAST HER AND KNEELS DOWN BESIDE JOHNNY'S BODY. ALSO SEVERAL NEIGHBORS COME IN. LISA STANDS BY THE DOOR WITH AN EXPRESSION OF HORROR AND HER ARMS FOLDED.)

NEIGHNOR #1.

Somebody call the police!

CONTINUED: (12)

NEIGHNOR #2.

Don't anybody touch anything! Call an ambulance!

(ONE PERSON LEAVES THE ROOM TO CALL.)

MARK

Johnny, open your eyes. Wake up!

(MARK HOLDS JOHNNY'S ARM AND HIS HEAD.)

LISA

Is he dead Mark? Is he dead?

MARK

(MARK IS VERY EMOTIONAL. HE TOUCHES THE SIDE OF JOHNNY'S NECK.)

Yes he's dead! Yes he's dead!!!

(HE KISSES JOHNNY ON THE FOREHEAD.)

LISA

(LISA PUTS HER HAND OVER HER EYES AND SAYS.)

Oh! Oh my God!

(MARK STANDS BESIDE LISA AND HOLDS HER TIGHTLY.)

LISA

Oh well, the insurance is paid up, \$ 100,000.00

MARK

(MARK STANDS BACK AWAY FROM LISA.)

You're thinking of insurance at a time like this!?

LISA

Don't you see? We're free to be together.

CONTINUED: (13)

MARK

(MARK PUSHES LISA AGAINST THE WALL.)

You tramp! You killed him, you're the cause of all of this.
Go to hell! I don't need your dirty money. I don't love you.
As far as I'm concerned you can drop off the Earth.

(PAUSE.)

Get out of my life! get out of my life Lisa!

(MARK KNEELS AGAIN BESIDE JOHNNY, CRYING. SIRENS CAN BE HEARD
IN THE DISTANCE.)

THE END